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Money

CPI up 0.4% - lowest Sept. increase since '68

Annual inflation rate stands at 11%

DAVID HARRIS

THE Consumer Price Index rose by 0.4 percent last month, the smallest September increase since 1968, the Central Bureau of Statistics reported yesterday.

The annual rate of inflation to September, and the predicted January to December figure, stand at some 11%. The government target for 1996 inflation is 8% to 10%.

The main reason for the relatively low CPI is a 0.1% fall in the cost of housing, according to the CBS. Economists' predictions for the second successive month suggested the CPI would be considerably higher - this month forecasts ranged from 0.5% to 0.7%.

Speaking in Jerusalem yesterday morning, before the CPI's publication, Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel conceded his monetary policy has been tight.

"Nobody likes it when interest rates are high, but you can't make an omelette without breaking eggs," he said.

Despite the increasing pressure to lower interest rates, which now is also coming from cabinet members, Frenkel seems unlikely to make major reductions in interest rates in the next few weeks.

During September, food prices, excluding fruit and vegetables, rose by 0.5%, with fish up 4.2% and milk products up 1.9%. Fruit and vegetables became more

expensive by 3.0%, fresh vegetable prices climbing some 7.3% and fruits 1.1%.

The cost of housekeeping goods and furnishings rose by 0.7%, but this was offset by a 0.1% drop in the overall cost of housing. This comprised a 0.4% decrease in the cost of properties for sale and a 1.8% increase in accommodation for rent. This increase, the CBS points out, was because of the exchange rate

between the shekel and dollar.

The cost of clothing and footwear went down by 0.9%. However, health care prices were up by 0.6%; it was particularly affected by increases in the cost of private medical services. Transport costs also rose, by 0.7%.

The relatively low CPI was welcomed by Histadrut Chairman MK Amir Peretz. However, he pointed out this indicates a real slowdown in the economy.

See back page
MIZADA TOURS
Middle East, Europe, Jordan & Egypt



Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat warmly welcomes King Hussein in Jericho yesterday.

Gov't considers joint hot pursuit units in Hebron

DAVID MAKOVSKY, HILLEL KUTTLER, and LIAT COLLINS

ISRAEL is studying the possibility of whether forming joint mobile units with the Palestinian Authority would solve the impasse in negotiations over redeployment in Hebron, according to sources close to the negotiations. The major sticking point is the IDF's insistence on being able to pursue terrorists in Palestinian-controlled parts of Hebron.

He too called on Frenkel to cut interest rates to allow for growth and to help young couples with mortgages. Reacting to the figures, Manufacturers Association President Dan Proper called, as in previous months, for a 2% reduction in interest rates and a need to make changes in the exchange rates. He also proposed an additional NIS 1 billion cut in the budget, which could be implemented by freezing employment in the public sector.

before the elections, from the end of January to the end of June. Factories are closing because the cost of wages abroad is lower due to the wage agreements of the previous government. Netanyahu came out strong in support of industrialists, saying: "We cannot hurt the business sector. The business sector is carrying us all. We are all traveling on the backs of the industrialists." He promised the government and party would be "sensitive to social issues" and said this would be seen in the annual budget. "If we don't quickly get the economy back on the right track, it could take three years to get out of this situation," Netanyahu said.

King Hussein returns to Jericho

JON IMMANUEL

KING Hussein of Jordan visited Jericho yesterday for the first time since 1967, in a highly symbolic reception as the first visiting head of state to the territory he once ruled.

Hussein formally renounced his title to the West Bank in July 1988 in the midst of the intifada. He has said it is for the Palestinian people to decide their future, but he has not frequently emphasized statehood.

opinion of the peace process on an Arab consensus. He maintained that the talks with Israel over Hebron are deadlocked and offered a way out by bringing in foreign troops.

Arafat's suggestion was also quickly dismissed by the Prime Minister's Office last night. Netanyahu aide David Bar-Ilan said, "The spirit and letter of Oslo is that we solve issues bilaterally, and do not bring in a foreign army to solve our problems."

Intelligence lead: Syria preparing war option

Jerusalem Post Staff and news agencies

SYRIA might attack Israel if it concludes there is no peaceful way to regain the Golan Heights, a top intelligence official reportedly told MKs yesterday.

Brig.-Gen. Amos Gilad, head of research at military intelligence, told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee that "the Syrians are talking about a military option, are preparing for it, and it will be implemented in accordance with developments."

It is clear that Israel is in a dilemma due to the policy of its hard-line leaders, who adopted everything which is against peace," the radio said in a political commentary.

US to maintain military aid, Perry tells Mordechai

HILLEL KUTTLER WASHINGTON

SECRETARY of Defense William Perry assured visiting Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai that the Clinton administration is committed to maintaining Israel's \$1.8 billion military assistance package through the 1998 fiscal year.

Christopher had indicated an abiding understanding for Israeli security concerns in the Hebron talks. He said early-warning systems would be in place in Israel by year's end to provide Israel with real-time intelligence of a ballistic missile attack.

Sharansky defeats Kasparov

INDUSTRY and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky defeated world chess champion Gary Kasparov in a match last night. However, Kasparov had a slight handicap by facing 24 other opponents simultaneously.

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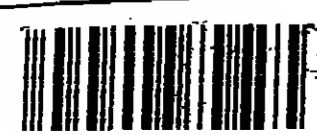
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Shahak: IDF on alert in territories for further violence

THE IDF cannot yet resume regular training, except for command courses, due to the tense situation in the territories, Chief of Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee yesterday.

"I won't resume the training of the regular army yet, but I can't hold off for much longer. Despite the relative quiet, this is only a break which depends on the talks and developments. There is still tension and a crisis could quickly spill over into violence. Therefore the forces are needed here [in the territories] and it wouldn't be right to move them yet," Shahak said.

Shahak said the fact that Palestinian policemen had participated in the shooting of IDF soldiers during the recent rioting would have an impact, but any changes in the Oslo Accords would be made by maneuvering within the agreement. "One can't ignore the fact that Palestinian policemen shot at IDF soldiers," Shahak said, according to an official briefing.

He said the accords limit the number of arms in Hebron to 100 weapons, but these are to be stored at the police station for its protection and not to be carried in the town.

LIAT COLLINS

Shahak rejected criticism that the military is interfering in the political negotiations. He said all the proposals submitted by the military on the redeployment in Hebron are within the agreements. He visited Hebron earlier in the day.

The chief of staff discussed the letter sent to the prime minister by 30 reserve officers and NCOs saying they could not participate in any war that might erupt if the peace talks broke down. He said it was "in poor taste to use military ranks or positions in a public dispute. The army should be kept out of any public arguments. It was an unacceptable act. The sooner we take the army out of this discussion, the better for all of us."

Shahak also said inquiries show that IDF officers and soldiers responded correctly to September's unrest. The investigation has not been concluded, he said, but it seems that at some stage in the rioting at Joseph's Tomb in Nablus, DCO officers from the liaison unit decided to enter the area to try to stop the firing and scores of Palestinians, including policemen, came in with

them and the situation got out of control.

Regarding the joint Palestinian-Israeli patrols, Shahak said "a bad feeling" had been created because several Palestinian policemen from the patrols had been positively identified as joining in the shooting. He said the joint patrols in Gaza had continued almost as before but none had taken place in Judea and Samaria since the riots.

In answer to a question by MK Hanan Porat (National Religious Party), Shahak said Jews would be permitted to visit the holy sites in Jericho and Nablus as soon as it is feasible from a security point of view.

He denied reports that between 30,000 and 40,000 Palestinians had been given arms, and said the figure to the best of his knowledge was some 10,000. He said there were other weapons which had been brought into the autonomous areas without licenses, but the numbers were in the hundreds, not thousands.

In a separate meeting of the committee, General Security Service chief Ami Ayalon reportedly said Yasser Arafat does not trust Israelis. He based this assessment on, among other things, Arafat's recent public speeches.

Grapes of Wrath monitoring committee visits scene of shelling

MEMBERS of the five-nation Grapes of Wrath monitoring committee, with the exception of Israeli representatives, visited the village in south Lebanon where 12 civilians were wounded last Friday by mistakenly directed IDF artillery fire.

The representatives from the US, France, Lebanon and Syria, were flown to the scene in Safed al-Battikh village, near Tibnin, in two UN helicopters.

Israel's delegation to the committee, established to supervise the understandings that ended the cross border fighting in April, did not go the scene because of its location, north of the security zone.

Tight security was in force during the visit by the delegates which, according to reports from Lebanon, lasted for nearly three hours.

The committee representatives were escorted by troops from UNIFIL's Irish battalion who were in charge of the security operation.

It was the first time, after more than six

DAVID RUDGE

meetings, that members of the committee actually made a ground verification visit.

Members of the committee, apparently with the exception of the Syrian and Lebanese delegates, are due to visit here today as part of the deliberations.

It was not clear last night whether the representatives would actually enter the security zone, or would meet with senior IDF officers in Israeli territory.

On Monday, the committee's meeting began to hear Lebanon's complaint over the incident last Friday in which IDF artillery shells hit three houses in Safed al-Battikh village, causing the civilian casualties, during an exchange of fire with Hizbullah gunmen.

Hizbullah fired several mortar rounds at IDF troops in the Barasheet region, in the security zone's western sector.

Israel has blamed Hizbullah for firing from

the outskirts of the village, thereby endangering the lives of residents. The IDF stressed that the army does its utmost to prevent civilians being harmed and stressed that the shelling was an act of self-defense.

The army said the artillery fire was aimed at protecting the soldiers by silencing the mortar fire which was endangering them.

The committee representatives inspected the damage to the houses from Friday's shelling, but they did not interview any of the wounded being treated in hospital in Sidon.

Until now, UNIFIL has not been actively involved in the workings of the monitoring committee apart from providing accommodation for meetings at its headquarters in Nakoura.

UNIFIL spokesman Timur Goksel said yesterday that the UN had agreed to assist at short notice, without the usual necessity for official contacts, because the incident involved civilians and because the UN is interested in helping the work of the committee.

Infiltrator from Egypt shot sneaking into Rafah

ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

IDF troops shot and lightly wounded a man trying to sneak into Palestinian-controlled Rafah from Egypt Monday, the army said. The man was captured, treated for his wounds and taken for interrogation.

The army said that soldiers noticed the infiltrator and ordered him to halt. When he failed to stop he was shot in the legs, the army said. The incident took place late Monday and was announced yesterday.

The area was near the site where gun battles took place during last month's rioting. During those shootouts, Palestinian gunmen were seen fleeing into Egyptian Rafah across the border, which is patrolled by the IDF.

On the West Bank, an Israeli was lightly injured from stones thrown at his vehicle near Abu Dis

on the outskirts of Jerusalem. He was treated on the spot and taken to a hospital for further treatment, the army said.

Early yesterday, a fire bomb was thrown at an army vehicle near Kalandia, but it caused no injuries or damage. Soldiers searching in the area found two more fire bombs ready for use, the army said.

The IDF lifted the internal closure over Nablus, the last city to have been sealed off from the rest of the Palestinian areas, IDF troops had cut off Nablus, the West Bank's largest city, since September 27, when a mob supported by Palestinian Police assaulted IDF troops defending Joseph's Tomb.

Seven soldiers were killed in that attack. The army stressed that Nablus, like the rest of the Palestinian-controlled cities, still remains off limit to Israelis.

DAP MK creates caucus for eastern J'lem as capital of a Palestinian state

LIAT COLLINS

DEMOCRATIC Arab Party MK Taleh a-Sanaa has created a Knesset caucus to promote "east Jerusalem as the capital of a future Palestinian state."

A-Sanaa said eastern Jerusalem has "a central place in the religious, cultural and political life of Arabs in general and Palestinians in particular."

He also accused the government of discriminating against the Arab population of eastern Jerusalem.

"The continuation of the present policy will inevitably lead to conflict in the region. Therefore we are obliged to create this lobby which will strengthen [Jerusalem's] standing as the key to peace in the region based on east Jerusalem as the capital of the future Palestinian state," he said.

Arab party MKs and Meretz joined the caucus, along with Labor MKs Sallah Tarif and Nawaf Massalha.



Foreign Minister David Levy welcomes Rwandan Vice President Paul Kagame to the Foreign Ministry yesterday. (Brian Hender)

Rwandan vice president expresses hope for continued aid from Israel

DAVID MAKOVSKY

VISITING Rwandan Vice President Paul Kagame expressed determination to rebuild his country in the aftermath of the genocide perpetrated against over 500,000 of his countrymen two years ago.

Kagame is one of the leaders who deposed the previous regime, which carried out the mass murders.

In a toast at a lunch hosted by Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu yesterday, Kagame thanked Israel for the technical assistance it has offered Rwanda and expressed hope that it

would continue. Netanyahu also saluted Kagame as someone who is involved in nation-building and pledged, "Israel will be your partner in hope for Rwanda and Africa."

Israel offered humanitarian assistance to Rwandan refugees two years ago. Moreover, for the last five years an Israeli foreign assistance program called Mashav has been offering technical training here to Rwandans in the areas of health, agriculture and community ser-

vices.

In August, Israel dispatched a Jerusalem eye doctor to investigate establishing a field center in Rwanda where eye operations would be conducted.

After the lunch yesterday, Absorption Minister Yuli Edelstein spoke with top Rwandan officials about the possibility of dispatching to Rwanda for a fixed period of the highly qualified Russian immigrant mining gas engineers, who are currently unemployed in Israel.

Israeli Arab council heads call nationwide municipal strike

DAVID RUDGE

MUNICIPAL services in Israeli Arab towns and villages throughout the country will be shut down tomorrow in protest over the financial plight of the councils and the Housing Ministry's plans to expand the Jewish population of the Galilee.

The decision was taken at a stormy meeting of the Forum of Arab Council Heads in Shfaram in the Galilee yesterday.

They also called for an urgent meeting with Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, who officially holds the Housing Ministry portfolio, and Interior Minister Eli Shussan to discuss the two issues.

The meeting in Shfaram was originally called to discuss a campaign to press the government to bail out the debt-ridden Arab councils.

The 54 local authorities have together accumulated deficits totaling NIS 350 million, as a result of which more than 20 have been unable to pay the salaries of municipal workers, some for as long as three months.

The council heads maintained that Netanyahu had pledged to honor promises of the previous administration to consolidate debts and increase regular and development budgets.

They charged that no financial aid had been forthcoming, despite the promises, and the situation of the councils had deteriorated to the point that many could no longer provide municipal services.

The meeting also centered on the recent Housing Ministry report predicting that Arabs in the Galilee will outnumber Jews within the next 20 years. The report recommends expanding the Jewish population of the North in general and the Galilee in particular.

According to the report, there will be an Arab majority in the Galilee within a few years, unless all government ministries take drastic measures. Some 700,000 Jews and 400,000 Arabs currently live in Haifa and the Galilee, the

report says.

It adds that judging by current population growth, one million Arabs and 900,000 Jews will live in the Galilee within 20 years.

Deputy Housing Minister Meir Porush instructed the ministry to prepare an "emergency plan" under which land in the Galilee will be earmarked for habitation by hundreds of thousands of Jews.

This plan envisions a Jewish population of 1,100,000 by 2020, the statement said.

However, Porush emphasized that this plan would not come at the expense of the Arab population living in the Galilee.

He noted that assistance has been sizably increased to Arab villages and towns in the Galilee in the past few months, with the aim of closing gaps with the Jewish

population.

Participants at the Arab council meeting expressed the fear that any such expansion would be at the expense of development of Arab towns and villages and could lead to more expropriation of Arab-owned land.

"We view this report by the Housing Ministry very seriously indeed. From our experience in the past, all development (of the Jewish sector) will be at the expense of Arab communities," said Hussein Suleiman, spokesman for the Forum of Arab Council Heads.

"We are a citizens of the state with equal rights and it should be wrong to try and differentiate between one citizen and another," said Suleiman, who is head of Mash had local council near Nazareth.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Cabel replaces Liba'i as MK
Eitan Cabel, 37, of Rosb Ha'ayin, was sworn in yesterday as Labor MK, replacing Prof. David Liba'i, who resigned his seat. Cabel was number 35 on Labor's Knesset list.

Arrests made in capital unrest
Thirty young Arab residents of Jerusalem have been arrested recently on suspicion of taking part in stone-throwing and firebomb attacks organized by two gangs aimed at creating unrest in the capital. Police said more arrests were expected.

The first group operated in Ras el-Amud and the incidents were primarily attacks on Border Police jeeps, but also included stone-throwing at Israeli cars. The other group initiated attacks on Israeli targets in A-Tur, involving dozens of young people.

Kitan workers continue closure protest
Employees of the Kitan textile factory in Beit She'an again burned tires in the plant's yard yesterday to protest the firm's plans to virtually close the plant down and dismiss 110 of the 150 workers.

As the demonstrations continued, workers committee representatives, Histadrut officials and members of the town council met to organize the planned general strike in Beit She'an called for tomorrow. Pinni Kabalo, head of Beit She'an's Histadrut branch, said the one-day warning strike would include all factories, businesses and schools. "This time we are not going to let the matter pass without a fight," he said.

Jerusalem road named for Haim Bar-Lev
Jerusalem's Road No. 1, which links the north part of the city to its center, was named yesterday after the late Lt.-Gen. (res.) Haim Bar-Lev. Bar-Lev, who was an IDF chief-of-staff and served as a Labor minister and MK, died in 1994. "Haim spoke slowly, but moved fast," President Ezer Weizman said at yesterday's ceremony. "He could be cool as ice, but had the power of fire." Former chief-of-staff MK Ehud Barak paid tribute to Bar-Lev's contributions during the Yom Kippur War period, which he said helped Israel get out of the serious situation it was in the southern front.

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

FROM OCTOBER 11-17, a prestigious Mexican delegation has been in Jerusalem to celebrate Mexico's 300th anniversary. The delegation's leader is Mrs. Victoria Reimers, the head of the Comité Mexicano Jerusalem 3000, and Mr. Leon Reimers, developer. Members include: Mr. Jose Madariaga, the president of the Mexican Bankers' Association; Mr. Max Shein, recent recipient of the prestigious Aztec Eagle Decoration from the Government of Mexico; Mr. and Mrs. Alfredo Achar, head of the Jewish community in Mexico; Mr. David Senu, developer and president of the Mexican-Israel Cultural Association; Mrs. Maribel Isabel Serrano Os Cozi, wife of the Mayor of Guadalupe; Mrs. Taty Smolensky, past president of Wizo, as well as other prominent members of the business community, including Sergio Chik, Ricardo Elias, owner of the Quinta Real hotel chain and president of the Jewish community in Guadalajara; Mr. and Mrs. Benito Lasey, president of the Mexican Friends of Israel; Mrs. Rocio Rubinstein, president of the Mexican Friends of the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra; and Mr. Luz Maria Barreto; Mrs. Rocio Rubinstein, president of the Mexican Friends of Israel; Mr. and Mrs. Adolfo Patron, recipient of a national award for chemistry; and the world-known pianist, Jorge Federico Osorio.

THE WEEKLY MEETING of the English-speaking Jerusalem Rotary Club will take place today at 1:00 p.m. at the YMCA, King David Street. Mr. Daniel Ben Natan, Vice President of the Israel Museum, will speak on "New trends in the Israel Museum."

SYRIA

(Continued from Page 1)
statements against Syria. Similar to his boss [Netanyahu], he acts as if the Arab world is required to accept Israel's expansionist policies and adopt Israel's security pretexts," it continued.

The radio said the Arab world in general and Syria in particular have many options to counter Israel's policies, including the termination of ties with Israel and insisting on the achievement of a just and comprehensive peace in the region.

It also threatened more cooperation with Palestinian guerrilla groups.

"Syria has the option of coordinating closely with Lebanon, supporting the struggle of the Palestinian brothers, and working to promote joint Arab action," the radio said.

(Continued from Page 1)
with issues of policy, the negotiating teams are meeting to draft those issues already agreed upon. Foreign Ministry acting legal adviser Alan Baker was present last night in Jerusalem as Israeli and Palestinian teams were slated to draft language on civilian affairs.

On civilian issues, remaining questions seem to center on the zoning rights of Jewish settlers in the 20% of Hebron under Israeli security control, but Palestinian administrative control, known as H2; the eligibility of settlers to live in empty apartments in H2; and the status of property occupied by Palestinians but once belonging to Jews before 1929.

However, there was speculation yesterday by all parties involved in the negotiations about whether Netanyahu and Arafat wanted to reach a quick agreement or felt it was in the other's interest to wait.

Netanyahu aide David Bar-Ilan blamed Arafat for practicing "brinkmanship" and charged that the Palestinian leader may be under the mistaken impression that the longer he waits, the more pressure will build on Israel to yield.

Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai, visiting US Secretary of Defense William Perry in Washington, predicted yesterday that when a Hebron redeployment agreement is reached, only "a few days" would be needed for it to be

PURSUIT

implemented.

Israel's negotiations with the Palestinians highlighted separate talks Mordechai held yesterday with Perry and Secretary of State Warren Christopher. He was also to meet with National Security Adviser Anthony Lake before heading for New York.

State Department spokesman Nicholas Burns told reporters that Israel and the Palestinians have proved they can find solutions for security quandaries that do not require American military support.

The two sides "have the capability, the inclination and the sophistication to get along with each other. And that's where these negotiations are headed. They don't need the US between them, physically, on the ground," he said.

Burns also dampened reports of major developments in the Israeli-Palestinian talks, saying that breakthroughs are not imminent.

"There's been much too much talk in the press about some kind of imminent positive outcome here. Following my conversation with Dennis [Ross] and my conversation with Secretary Christopher just now, substantial differences remain between Israel and the Palestinians.

"That has been the case all along for the past couple of days.

The unveiling of the tombstone of the late
PROF. ZALMAN RUBINSTEIN ז"ל
will take place on Thursday, October 17, at 3.30 p.m. at the Yarkon Cemetery
The Family

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הלואה מן האוהל

Ban lifted on Israeli tour buses to Bethlehem

HAIM SHAPIRO

THE army officially began allowing Israeli buses carrying foreign tourists to enter Bethlehem yesterday.

The announcement came after a few days in which most of the tourist buses had been circumventing the army roadblocks and entering the town despite the ban.

During the period the ban was in force, tour guides had complained that Israeli Arab drivers and guides were being allowed through, while Israeli Jews accompanying groups of tourists had been stopped, a complaint which Israeli officials had denied.

At one point, some of the Christian pilgrims who wanted to visit the Church of the Nativity had been forced to make their way on foot.

The official announcement yesterday stressed that Israeli citizens in general are still being banned, for security reasons, from entering area A, the area under Palestinian jurisdiction.

In a related development, Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi Yisrael Lau and Sephardi Chief Rabbi Eliahu Bakshi-Doron yesterday visited Rachel's Tomb on the northern outskirts of Bethlehem, accompanied by the deputy religious affairs ministers, Rabbi Arye Gamliel and Yigal Bibi.

OC Central Command Maj.-Gen. Uzi Dayan was on hand to show them the new security arrangements at the tomb. Special arrangements are being made at the site to accommodate an expected large number of pilgrims tomorrow, which is the anniversary of the matriarch's death.



Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi Yisrael Lau (right) and Sephardi Chief Rabbi Eliahu Bakshi-Doron (left) visit Rachel's Tomb yesterday, accompanied by OC Central Command Maj.-Gen. Uzi Dayan, who showed them the new security arrangements at the site. (Efraim Kibichok)

Court triples sentence of sexually abusive father

VELYN GORDON

THE Supreme Court tripled the sentence yesterday of a man accused of sexually abusing his daughters.

The man, who has six children, was convicted by Tel Aviv District Court earlier this year of two crimes: sexually abusing his two younger daughters, ages 4 and 6, and physically abusing his two younger sons, ages 8 and 10. He was not accused of any kind of abuse against his oldest girl or oldest boy.

The district court sentenced him to one year in prison, and the man then appealed both his conviction and his sentence to the Supreme Court.

The state lodged a counter-appeal, arguing that the sentence was too lenient. The man argued that several factors should mitigate the sentence: his lack of a criminal record, his respected position as a teacher in the community, the length of the trial (three years), his having functioned as a devoted father for several years, and the fact that the children suffered no serious physical damage.

However, Justices Aharon Barak, Ya'akov Kedmi and Dalia Dorner rejected these arguments. The one-year sentence might have been appropriate as far as the physical abuse was concerned, they said, but was far too lenient with respect to the sexual abuse.

A one-year sentence will not sufficiently deter other would-be abusers, they explained. They therefore upped the sentence to three years.

Survey: Despite depression, most high schoolers from CIS want to stay

BATSHEVA TSUR

MANY children from the CIS studying at boarding schools here suffer from depression and social deprivation, but the vast majority wish to remain in Israel after high school, a study has revealed.

Researchers at the Henrietta Szold Institute in Jerusalem surveyed 550 16 to 18 year olds as well as 50 of their educators and counselors for the Education Ministry's Society for the Advancement of Education. The pupils were brought to Israel, without their parents, under the auspices of what was the Youth Aliya.

The researchers found that about one-third of the respondents were suffering from personal problems when the study was carried out at the end of the 1995 academic year. Thus, 29 percent said that they "often felt depressed," 30% said they were "lonely," and 31% said they had "many personal problems."

On the social level, 40% said they "don't feel popular," while 50% said they did not participate in social activities. At the same time, 44% said they were having difficulties with life in boarding school.

The pupils also complained about their studies. Some 53% said they were "dissatisfied with the level of studies" and about

one-third reported that communication with their teachers was not good.

There were also cases of violence involving the potential immigrants, researchers Orit Bendas-Jacob and Dr. Yitzhak Friedman reported, it was not clear whether this occurred between the new pupils and veteran Israelis or within the group of newcomers.

About one-third reported they had encountered verbal violence while 13% said they had been involved in physical violence at school.

The study found that there was a greater amount of dissatisfaction among pupils in state schools than those in state-religious schools, where they felt "less alienated ... and more satisfied."

Notwithstanding the lack of personal and social gratification, a high percentage of the pupils expressed the desire to remain in Israel after the high-school program, Bendas-Jacob said.

A total of 72% said they want to remain in the country, 61% said they like Israel in general and were not sorry they had left the CIS and 58% expected to succeed in the matriculation exams.

A majority - 59% - expressed the desire to serve in the IDF, the researchers said.

Russian immigrant doctors in danger of losing jobs

JUDY SIEGEL

SEVENTY Russian immigrant doctors who were specially trained to work as hygienic supervisors in food factories and public institutions will soon be out of a job because their four-year contract with the Health Ministry is about to expire.

At a meeting of the Knesset Immigration and Absorption Committee yesterday, MK Sofia Landver demanded that job slots be created for these and additional qualified and retrained immigrant doctors.

She noted that although the law does not require such supervisors in all food manufacturing companies, waste plants, hospitals and other institutions, numerous scandals like the adding of silicone to Touva milk, the import of sub-standard produce from the

autonomous areas and illegal slaughtering of meat have shown the need for them. The 70 retrained immigrants will soon have to stop working and receive unemployment benefits because their ministry contract has not been renewed.

Landver said that the number of food poisoning incidents is steadily increasing, from 362 reported cases in 1995 to 468 from January to mid-September this year. Ministry labs can only detect the problem after the fact but not prevent infection, she added; that is the job of hygienic supervisors.

No comment was available from the Health Ministry spokesman on what Minister Tzahi Hanegbi, who attended the committee session, intends to do.

MKs tour Arazim Valley to protest planned construction

LIAT COLLINS

MEMBERS of the Knesset's Environmental Caucus toured the Arazim Valley area at the entrance to Jerusalem yesterday and surprised workers illegally constructing a private path to a house also built without a permit near Motza.

Caucus chairman Avraham Herschson said the illegal construction emphasized the problems in the area.

The tour was initiated by MK Ofir Pines (Labor) and Life and Environment, the umbrella group of environmental organizations in Israel, opposed to plans to build housing, a major road and a network of electric pylons in the valley.

Following the tour, the MKs demanded that the Arazim Valley's natural landscape be preserved. "The landscape of the entrance to Jerusalem is a national asset," Herschson said. "The city

city of hills." He said more attention should be given to "important needs rather than expedient needs in planning and development."

MK Avner Shaki (National Religious Party) said Jerusalem should be preserved "as the most beautiful city in the world." He said the planned construction would destroy this beauty and environmental considerations must be taken into account in the planning process.

Pines emphasized that the Arazim Valley question goes beyond being simply a Jerusalem municipal issue. "The project will dramatically determine Jerusalem's demographic and urban nature," he said.

The lobby decided to initiate parliamentary discussions in an effort to study alternative proposals to development at the city's entrance and halt the planned project.

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N. Ireland talks start after months of deadlock

NORTHERN Ireland peace talks got off the ground yesterday after four months of wrangling when delegates agreed an outline agenda amid fears of a return to guerrilla war in the province after a two-year break.

"We have made a small step forward, but it is only a small step," David Trimble, leader of the biggest pro-British, Protestant group, the Ulster Unionist Party (UUP), said.

The holding of a plenary session was made possible by an overnight compromise between the UUP and the Irish nationalist group, the Social Democratic and Labor Party of John Hume.

Under this, the issue of disarming rival guerrilla groups will be discussed in parallel with talks on the province's constitutional status and relationships between the pro-British Protestant majority and the Catholic minority.

The compromise was spurred on by last

ANDREW HILL
BELFAST

week's Irish Republican Army (IRA) bombing of Britain's Northern Ireland army headquarters, which raised fears of retaliation by pro-British Loyalist guerrillas and a breakdown of law and order.

It was agreed by consensus after two of the nine parties, the Democratic Unionist Party and the United Kingdom Unionist Party, objected.

Until now the UUP and its allies had insisted that so-called decommissioning be the first item on the agenda to try to ensure that the political wings of the IRA and pro-British Loyalists start disarming to prove a commitment to democratic principles.

The start of the talks cast the IRA's political wing Sinn Fein into deeper isolation because of the refusal of the IRA to call a cease-fire which the British and Irish governments say would

allow it to take part in the talks.

It ended a 17-month truce in February by bombing targets in Britain and an army base in Germany. It brought its war against British rule of Northern Ireland back to the province last week by bombing the army headquarters, killing a soldier.

Sinn Fein says it should be allowed to take part in the talks by virtue of a 15 percent vote in elections to a forum to select the talks negotiators but the two governments say the IRA must renew its truce.

The progress was welcomed by small parties which speak for Loyalist guerrillas and which are represented at the talks because of a two-year-old Loyalist cease-fire.

"It's one teetering step. We have a long way to go, but at least it's something," said David Ervine of the Progressive Unionist Party, which is close to the outlawed Ulster Volunteer Force militia. (Reuters)

Pro-Saddam Iraqi Kurds edge towards key town

OSMAN SENKUL DEGALA, Iraq (Reuters) - Pro-Baghdad Iraqi Kurdish militiamen pushed a rival group 10 km back in a counter-attack yesterday aimed at retaking a key town in northern Iraq, witnesses said.

About 2,000 Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP) fighters deployed near the town of Degala moved closer to their target, Koy Sanjak, but fighting was interrupted by the passage of a UN aid convoy of 47 grain trucks.

"We are now just waiting for a new order to continue our final attack," said Robiran Ibrahim, commander of KDP forces in the nearby town of Degala.

There was no clear evidence of outside forces involved in the fighting, part of a long Kurdish

feud shaping up as a proxy conflict between adversaries Iran and Iraq.

Washington, closely watching the fighting, has counseled both sides to quit the battlefield and return to the negotiating table.

Ibrahim told Reuters his men had captured Iraqis fighting alongside the rival Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) group and sent them to the KDP stronghold of Salahuddin.

"We arrested several enemy fighters with eight Iraqis among them," he said. Iran denies KDP charges that it has sent men, arms and ammunition to help the PUK.

There was no sign of Iranian forces in Iraqi Kurdistan's biggest city Sulaimaniya, which the PUK took almost overnight last weekend.

However residents said they

had seen Talabani's usually lightly-armed militia in possession of unspecified new types of arms. "I believe those weapons are used by Iranian officers. The PUK did not have such weapons," said a resident who refused to give his name.

Barzani's group is to cite what it says is Iranian military support for its rival at a meeting with US officials in Washington this week.

Turkish Foreign Minister Tansu Ciller said Turkey was in contact with neighbor Iran about its alleged involvement in the fighting.

"We are in contact with Iran, dialogue is continuing," Ciller told reporters after a meeting with President Suleyman Demirel. "We have received certain information along the lines of Iranians inside Talabani's forces," she said.

Americans can vote by fax, but not by secret ballot

WASHINGTON (AP) - Americans can vote by fax from anywhere in the world in the November 5 election, but it's no longer a secret ballot if they do.

For the millions of potential voters who will not be at home on Election Day, the Federal Voting Assistance Program has set up an electronic transmission service.

It has also sent out a reminder to Americans who want to use it that they must submit with their ballot an official waiver of secrecy.

The waiver form varies from one US state to another. If the voter does not know the proper form, he or she can write on the cover sheet: "By faxing this ballot, I hereby waive my right to a secret ballot."

The statement should be signed and dated.

Copies of the ballot should also be sent by mail to local election boards in the United States.

US embassies and consulates will help voters get their ballots. The FVAP has also set up a system of toll-free telephone numbers in many countries where more information is available.

Material Girl Madonna - Now she's the maternity girl

LOS ANGELES (Reuters) - Pop star Madonna, whose often outrageous sexuality has been a staple of her climb to pop-culture stardom, celebrated the more traditional role of motherhood on Monday.

She gave birth to a six-pound, nine-ounce (2.97 kilos) baby girl, named Lourdes Maria Ciccone Leon, her publicist Liz Rosenberg said.

She said the "healthy baby girl" was born at 4:01 p.m. at the Good Samaritan hospital in Los Angeles.

"Mother Madonna Ciccone, father Carlos Leon and their daughter are all resting comfortably," she said in a statement. "We would like to thank everyone for their kind wishes."

Rosenberg added that there would be "absolutely" no further information released and declined to say whether the birth was natural or by Caesarean-section.

It is the first child for Madonna, 38. The father, Cuban-born Carlos Leon, 30, is a personal trainer to the pop singer and actress. They have not said if they will marry.

"He's not a movie star, you know. Everyone doesn't have to be. He's the man in her life and they met about a year and a half ago in New York," Rosenberg said at the time the pregnancy was announced in April while Madonna was filming *Evita* in Budapest.

Earlier Madonna said half-jokingly on television that she planned to find a suitable candidate for "the fatherhood gig" by taking out a personal ad.

But she did not use Leon as a "stud service," she says in November's *Vanity Fair*, and did not get pregnant for "shock value."

"I realize that these are all comments made by persons who cannot



Madonna and Carlos Leon are shown during her birthday party at the Delano Hotel in Miami last August. (AP)

live with the idea that something good is happening to me," the Michigan-born entertainer said.

In an interview with a Colombian newspaper this summer, Madonna said she hoped to raise her child in her religion as "a good Catholic," and had not yet decided whether to marry the father of her child.

"I don't know, I love Juan Carlos but that doesn't mean that I'm going to marry him," she told *El Tiempo*.

Asked why she had decided to have his baby, she said: "I have to work for someone in life. I needed something that's mine that I can be proud of."

Asked about rumors of her alleged lesbian love affairs, the

flamboyant pop star told the newspaper "the funny thing is I don't like women. What really drives me crazy are men."

Her fame is founded on a string of hits but the notoriety that explains much of her runaway success rests unapologetically on raunch - relentless bodily exposure and a celebratory invocation of sex in various forms.

Madonna Veronica Louise Ciccone had flings with several Hollywood stars, including Warren Beatty, and was married to actor/director Sean Penn.

Basketball star Dennis Rodman also wrote in graphic detail about his affair with Madonna, sparking a host of late-night TV jokes about her sexual appetite for athletes.

Italy orders Priebeke retrial

ROME (AP) - Italy's highest court ordered a new trial yesterday for former SS captain Erich Priebeke, who was acquitted of acting with premeditation and cruelty in the World War II slaying of 335 civilians.

The Court of Cassation accepted a challenge by relatives of the victims that the judge in the military trial was biased in favor of 83-year-old Priebeke.

A military court August 1 convicted Priebeke of involvement in the 1944 massacre in Nazi-occupied Rome. But it acquitted him of acting with premeditation and cruelty - effectively freeing him because prosecutors needed a conviction on those charges to get around Italy's 30-year statute of limitation on murder.

But Priebeke was immediately re-arrested after the verdict, with the Italian government citing a desire by Germany to extradite him. He remains jailed in Rome.

The prosecutor in the first trial, Antonino Intelisano, said a date for the new proceedings has not been set and that he expects to lead the prosecution team again.

"We've hit the jackpot," Intelisano told *The Associated Press*. "The trial will be redone."

The court upheld an appeal that the head of the three-judge panel, Agostino Quistelli, was predisposed to ruling in favor of Priebeke. Quistelli was allegedly overheard making remarks suggesting that Priebeke should not be sent to prison.

"I hope that there can finally be a true trial," said Giovanni Gigliozzi, president of an association of victims' relatives.

Defense attorneys had used the

argument that Priebeke had to follow orders to kill the civilians or face execution himself. The civilians were killed in a cave outside Rome in retaliation for the deaths of 33 Nazi soldiers in a bombing by resistance fighters.

Priebeke, who was extradited from Argentina in 1995, admitted to killing two of the victims.

Priebeke's defense attorney, Velio Di Rezze, said he would probably represent Priebeke again.

"I feel like a man who has battled in vain, but who will battle again," Di Rezze said.

He said he would seek a change of venue "because the Roman surroundings are not suited to the hearing of this trial."

After the August verdict, a mob led by young members of Rome's Jewish community tried to storm the small military court. Politicians went to memorials in Rome's old Jewish quarter.

It was not immediately clear how the court ruling would affect the German extradition request, which is still under review by Italy's Constitutional Court.

The August verdict touched off an uproar in Italy and abroad, with many people suggesting the trial should have been held in a civilian court to address possible crimes against humanity.

"This was missing from the first time," said Rabbi Marvin Hier of the *Simon Wiesenthal Center*. "I hope the same mistake will not be made again."

Germany has also asked for the extradition of a former SS major who took part in the slaying, Karl Hass, 84. Hass testified in Priebeke's trial and is under investigation by Italian prosecutors.

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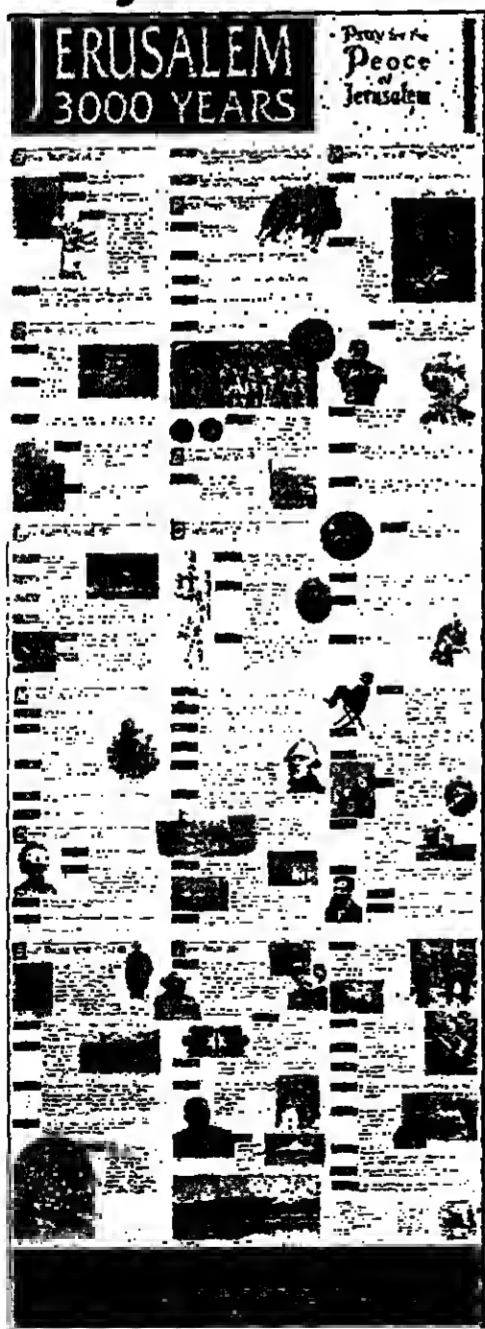
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Farrakhan, in New York, wants to powwow with top Jews

LOUIS Farrakhan, the fiery head of the Nation of Islam, said he wanted to speak with Jewish organizational leaders today when he is in New York for what is being billed as the World Day of Atonement.

Abraham Foxman, the head of the Anti-Defamation League, said no.

"There's nothing to discuss. There's been no atonement. Nothing has changed," said Foxman, who has been in the vanguard when it comes to challenging Farrakhan's antisemitic remarks.

"This is a public relations charade," Foxman huffed, saying Farrakhan's idea of a "dialogue" is for the Jews to prove that they are not the "devils" Farrakhan says they are. "It's ludicrous."

The World Day of Atonement, marking the one-year anniversary of the Million Man March in Washington, is expected to draw up to 50,000 men and women to a rally across the street from the United Nations, just under Foxman's office window.

The rally is expected to call for a worldwide appeal to end "injustice, exploitation, violence and war," and for nations to atone for injustice, organizers said.

MARILYN HENRY
NEW YORK

"I don't wish to go into New York with the Jewish community feeling that I'm coming there to say or do things to affect them, but I'm coming from the basis of atonement, reconciliation and responsibility," Farrakhan told *Newsweek* magazine in an interview published this week.

"We really need to sit and talk as civilized and intelligent human beings, and if they can show me where I am in error, then I accept that," Farrakhan said.

Foxman cautioned against what appeared to be Farrakhan's conciliatory statements. "I don't want to make the analogy," Foxman said, "but Hitler [also] made conciliatory statements."

Last year, Farrakhan's march drew hundreds of thousands of black men to Washington, where they were addressed by the venerated figures of the black community. However, many of those leaders said they would not be attending today's event, including the Reverend Jesse Jackson, and Kweisi Mfume, president of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. In addition to the ADL's battle

against Farrakhan's polemics, there is a roiling dispute between the New York Jewish community and a business arm of the Nation of Islam called the X-Men, which provides security services.

The X-Men lost a \$360,000 contract from New York State to provide security at a state-financed Brooklyn housing project after Jules Polonetsky, a Jewish legislator, and others complained that the X-Men were recruiting for the Nation of Islam and distributing racist material.

Although the X-Men were seen as effective in clearing the housing project of drug dealers and prostitutes, Jewish groups contended that, by giving the X-Men the contract, the state was subsidizing a hate group.

Irate at losing the contract, Conrad Mobammed, the local leader of the Nation of Islam, called Polonetsky a "snotty-nosed Jewish politician" in a radio interview.

That brought the New York governor, George Pataki, into the act. He assailed Mohammed's "disgraceful rhetoric," adding, "It's precisely the reason why we can't allow anyone associated with Minister Farrakhan to have a state contract."

After week in hospital, pope released under 'orders' to rest

ROME (Reuters) - Pope John Paul left the hospital yesterday one week after an operation to remove his appendix and with no sign that he will obey doctors' orders to slow down.

"This is a happy day because he is remaining home cured," Professor Francesco Crucitti told reporters minutes after the 76-year-old pope left the Gemelli Hospital for the Vatican.

Crucitti led the team of surgeons who operated on the pope to remove his appendix a week ago. The operation confirmed that there

was no recurrence of a colon tumor removed in 1992.

Crucitti said doctors had not set a specific amount of time for the pope to rest.

"But we told him he had to rest," Crucitti said firmly.

Asked if he believed the pope would obey the orders, Crucitti smiled and said: "Ah, now that remains to be seen."

Crucitti, who accompanied the pope through the lobby of the hospital to his waiting limousine, said he was convinced that the pontiff would make a full recovery.

"Yes, he had an operation but it was a small operation of modest dimensions," Crucitti said, adding that he expected to visit the pope at least once at the Vatican.

The surgeon described the pope as "certainly in good shape" and added: "He has overcome this illness and this operation like any other patient in good condition would."

The pope, who had his stitches removed yesterday morning, walked slowly through the lobby of the hospital. He used a cane at first, but then passed it to one of his aides.

הלוא מן האל

It's sad but true

DAVID GLASGOW

SOMETIMES it seems that God loves a good joke. At the very least He must have a delicious sense of irony.

Take the matter of dates and speeches. Take October 3, a date pregnant with meaning for both the world's democracies and for Jews.

On October 3, 1938 prime minister Neville Chamberlain rose in the House of Commons to defend the Munich Agreement and his policy of appeasement and said: "The object of that conversation for which I asked was to try to extend a little further the personal contact... which I believed to be essential to modern diplomacy... The path that leads to peace is a long one and bristles with obstacles. We have only laid the foundation of peace."

On October 3, 1938 prime minister Neville Chamberlain rose in the House of Commons to defend the Munich Agreement and his policy of appeasement and said: "The object of that conversation for which I asked was to try to extend a little further the personal contact... which I believed to be essential to modern diplomacy... The path that leads to peace is a long one and bristles with obstacles. We have only laid the foundation of peace."

Both men labored under the delusion that good intentions and kind words inevitably lead to good results. What neither realized is that some people use conflict and chaos as a tactic to get what they want. Just because the two ministers went to Sunday school is no reason to suppose everyone else did.

In 1938, Chamberlain believed in appeasement, a policy based on the false notion that giving a bully what he wants will satisfy him. But a bully doesn't really want money, territory, or anything material. What a bully wants is power.

Power comes from taking whatever an aggressor's victim happens to have. Before Munich, the Czechs had strong alliances and border entrenchments. They relied equally on the ironclad word of their British and French allies and their iron-enforced fortifications.

They lost both at Munich. And Munich meant more than the end of pre-war Czechoslovakia. It made World War II inevitable, and helped to lead to the Holocaust and the death of six million Jews.

Fortunately for today's Israelis, Binyamin Netanyahu has no such illusions. He knows all too well that the lives of Israel's citizens depend primarily on the ability of its army and not solely on accords signed in Oslo or the words of an American president running for re-election. After all, Netanyahu's brother was killed rescuing Jews from Palestinian terrorists.

PALESTINIAN Authority President Yasser Arafat is no Adolf Hitler, but neither does he bear the Jewish state much love. The two crises - the tourist-tunnel uprising and Munich - have something in common. On both occasions the leaders of powerful nations deluded themselves into thinking that words were a good substitute for deeds.

Both President Clinton and prime minister Chamberlain thought that warm thoughts and hopeful intentions could take the place of hard decisions and tough action. In at least one way Chamberlain was more rigorous than Clinton. In his October 3 speech, the Englishman said, "Peace is not to be obtained by sitting still and waiting for it to come. It requires active and positive effort."

Clinton's October 3 utterance? "Please, please give us a chance to let this thing work in the days ahead." At least Chamberlain thought he had to do something himself to achieve peace. Clinton seems to think things will sort of work themselves out passively as he stands by.

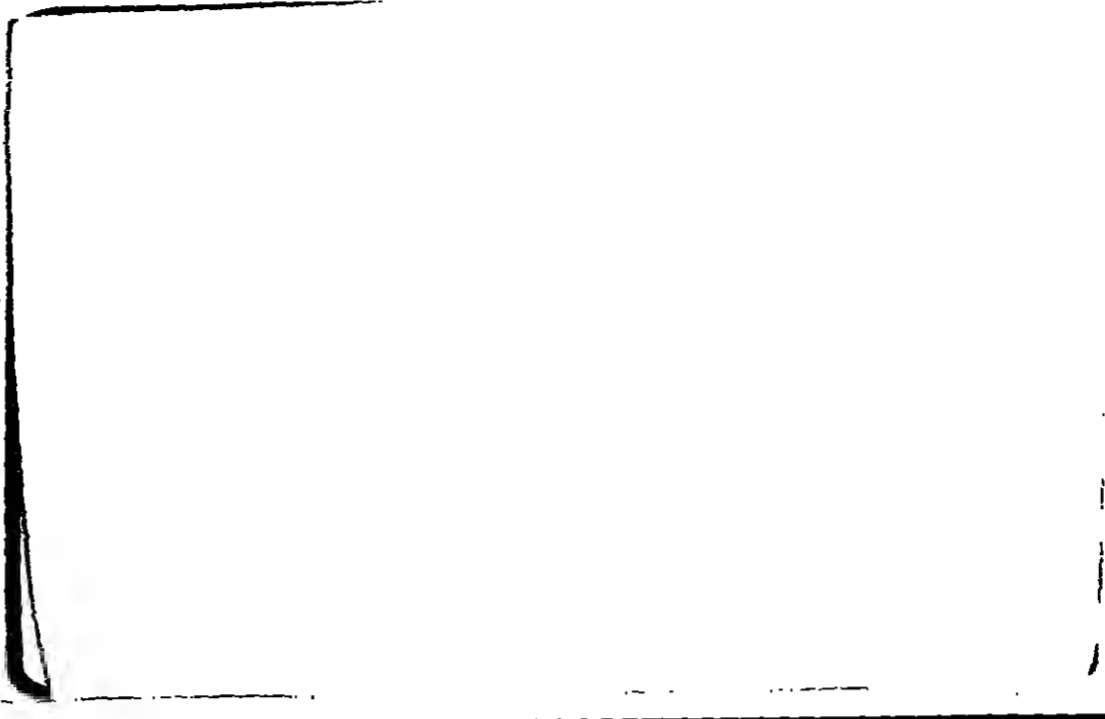
At the end of it all Israel knows that appeasement and trust are no substitute for swords and security. Peace is only possible with promises must be backed up by firm resolution and military might. Israelis should continue to put their trust in God, but they should also remember what soldiers used to say about their muskets on the eve of battle: "Look to your powder."

The writer is a political commentator who lives in Austin, Texas.

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Who's last?



Summit, with extortion

PRESIDENT Mubarak is saber-rattling again.

MOSHE ZAK

Having found Israel largely unperturbed by his threat to postpone the November Mideast economic summit in Cairo if the redeployment in Hebron isn't a reality by then, he's trying another stab at intimidation: He will not meet with Prime Minister Netanyahu until the Hebron question is settled.

To emphasize the severity of such a "punishment" the Egyptian leader last week simultaneously invited President Ezer Weizman and opposition leader Shimon Peres to Egypt, the intention seemingly to provoke a response from a jealous Netanyahu. But if Mubarak's reasoning is that an Israeli premier cannot function without meeting the president of Egypt, he is deluding himself.

Unlike his predecessor Anwar Sadat, who visited Israel four times during as many years of Israeli-Egyptian relations, Mubarak hasn't (except for the funeral of Yitzhak Rabin) paid a single official visit to Israel in his 15 years of incumbency. Although Israeli leaders have frequently visited him in Egypt and involved him in the diplomatic process, Mubarak has never returned any of the visits. And Israel, preferring substance to niceties, hasn't insisted, although diplomatic protocol demands reciprocal visits.

While this Egyptian coolness should not be dismissed, it ought in all fairness to be noted that US presidents Harry S. Truman, Lyndon Johnson and Ronald Reagan, who never visited Israel, were infinitely greater friends than Richard Nixon and Jimmy Carter, who did. In sum: Visiting Israel cannot constitute the be-all and end-all of understanding and friendship; the same goes for the frequency of meetings between our prime minister and other heads of state.

It wasn't so long ago that a summit meeting between heads of state was a rare event; the quality of relations between countries certainly wasn't dependent on the frequency with which their leaders met. Mubarak's ultimatum-like announcement that he won't meet with Netanyahu until he gets his way over Hebron doesn't signify the end of peace, which has its own momentum; it merely reveals the shortsightedness of Mubarak, who flatters himself that every meeting with him is like a candy for good behavior distributed among Israeli leaders.

Mubarak needs to learn that threats to Israel won't earn him the influence he craves in the region

ANOTHER president, Jacques Chirac, will be visiting Israel this week, not to demonstrate any understanding of Israel's needs but to bolster his country's role in the peace process. Also queuing up to meet with Netanyahu for the same reason are the foreign ministers of Russia, Ireland and Norway.

Aware that Israel constitutes 50 percent of the Arab-Israeli conflict, Chirac knows he can't just circumvent it. This is something Mubarak urgently needs to learn; he needs to understand that it isn't threats to Israel that will earn him the influence in the region he thirsts for.

The Quay d'Orsay isn't exactly one of Israel's most enthusiastic supporters, but it understands that without Israel's consent France

can have no meaningful role in the political process.

France was not always of such a mind. In the early 1970s it believed it could attain influence in the region through pressuring Israel, for example by getting European foreign ministers to refrain from paying official visits to Jerusalem. This effort at diplomatic boycott was unsuccessful, resulting in the Europeans' exclusion from the Geneva Conference after the Yom Kippur War.

Then one fine day the French woke up. Realizing that tense ties with Israel were counterproductive as far as their own interests were concerned, they made a small course correction.

In this new spirit in December 1978 president Giscard d'Estaing invited Meoachem Begin to have dinner with him in the Elysee Palace on his way back from Washington after presenting his Palestinian autonomy plan to the US president. Begin, however, politely declined. He preferred to dine with his wife, he told the French special emissary who came to meet him in London.

Now, as then, no invitation to a palace in Cairo or Paris or anywhere else will tempt an Israeli prime minister to accept the dictate of friends or foes in issues vital to Israel.

After three months spent jettisoning around world capitals, it would be better for Netanyahu to stay put on Israeli soil for a while and concentrate on running his government.

When he can show that he is indifferent to the prospect of a visit to Egypt or Morocco, our neighbors might finally begin to understand that what they want from the prime minister they won't get from the leader of the opposition, or even from the president.

The writer, a veteran journalist, comments on current affairs.

'Moral panic' doesn't help

THE US press recently erupted with reaction to the story of the six-year-old North Carolina boy who kissed a six-year-old girl and was immediately suspended for "unwarranted and unwelcome touching."

As a former little girl, I think what he did was a big improvement on the way boys used to express affection, by hitting or pulling hair.

But in today's climate that little boy is an incipient sex offender. His story illustrates how confused many Americans have become in deciding what exactly constitutes sexual abuse and harassment and what should be done about them.

The savage streak of Puritanism lurking just below the surface of American culture erupts from time to time in what sociologist Stanley Cohen called "moral panics" - crusades and contagions that occur when people's general anxieties become attached to particular events or deviant individuals who seem to threaten the social order.

Moral panics have been attached at various times to pedophiles, marijuana smokers, communists, homosexuals, rock 'n' roll musicians and, most famously, alleged witches. In each case, the hysteria generated "root out" the evil has caused more devastation than the original problem.

Today there is occasional hysteria about child sexual abuse. As with all moral panics, it stems from legitimate worries - in this case, about the safety of children in a hypersexualized age. And it stems from the understandable rage produced by sensationalized stories of sexual predators and psychopaths.

But pedophiles and sexual psychopaths have always existed. What distinguishes a moral panic from reasoned efforts to deal with sex offenders has to do with the

tone and sweep of the solutions offered.

We can tell we are in the grip of hysteria when parents are afraid to kiss their baby's tush, when teachers are warned not to cuddle a frightened child, when grandparents are worried about embracing children on their laps and when adults interpret children's kisses and sexual curiosity as signs of mental illness or "harassment."

THE PROBLEM is that "sexual abuse" has come to include everything from seeing a flasher to being raped; from a single unpleasant experience to repeated coercion. It is assumed, again with no evidence, that all these experiences are psychologically equivalent and equally devastating.

Few dispute that we must do everything we can to help children who have been traumatized, but we must also be careful not to let hysteria inflate minor events into traumatic ones.

Of course it is important to protect children and punish perpetrators - but in the most constructive way possible, without hanging the innocent.

It can take an outsider to put things in perspective. A few years ago I exchanged letters on sexual hysteria with the writer and social critic Jessica Mitford, who

died this past summer. She told me the following story about her daughter Dink.

"In about 1948, when she was seven, we lived near [London's] Municipal Rose Garden. Dink and the other little girls used to meet and play there. The children reported that they'd often seen a man who would be lurking in the bushes and came out exposing himself to them.

Our neighbors reacted predictably; the men were going to catch him, castrate him and Lord knows what. Useless to point out that chaps who do that are unfortunate specimens, but very seldom go on to rape or other violent behavior.

"In the course of this episode I found out that the police term for these deviants is 'lily-waver'.... "A mother of one of the other kids came round to complain that Dink had been seen talking to the fellow. All the other children had been ordered out to talk to him and had obeyed. So I called Dink in and asked, 'Did you speak to the lily-waver?' 'Yes,' she answered stoutly. 'He said, 'Little girl, have you ever seen one of these before?' And she answered, 'Yes, of course, loads of 'em.'"

"Upon which," Mitford concluded, "I imagine the lily must have wilted."

What Mitford understood, what we would all do well to learn, is that the first line of defense against sexual molesters and sexual hysteria is honest sexual information, a sense of perspective and a sense of humor.

Children will be better protected by parents who instill in them Dink's attitude than by fleets of prissy school superintendents or overzealous therapists driven by moral panic and an anti-sexual agenda.

(Los Angeles Times)

The writer is a political commentator who lives in Austin, Texas.

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Pressure tactics

THE sight of King Hussein personally piloting Yasser Arafat back to Jericho recalls, with due respect to both leaders, the parable of the scorpion and the frog. As the story goes, the scorpion asks the frog for a lift across the river. The frog agrees, figuring the scorpion would not sting him, drowning them both. In the middle of the river, the scorpion stings the frog. The frog asks, "Why?" The scorpion answers, "This is the Middle East."

Given the rocky relations between Arafat and the king over the years, one wonders whether either leader had second thoughts about stepping into that helicopter for the short flight across the Jordan River. Each leader is not without influence in the other's territory, and each has had ambitions at the other's expense.

In the current context, with Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu isolated by Hussein and Egypt's President Hosni Mubarak, and Arafat signaling different levels of unwillingness to meet him, some might see the Hussein-Arafat rapprochement as another pressure tactic against Israel's prime minister. Calling his stay in Jericho his "first visit to Palestine," Hussein did pledge his full backing for Arafat yesterday, particularly regarding Israeli redeployment from Hebron. Palestinian spokesman Nabil Abu Rdaiah told reporters that the king's visit "shows support for the Palestinian position and it deepens Palestinian sovereignty in liberated Palestinian areas."

This does not mean, however, that Palestinian-Jordanian differences, particularly over Jerusalem, have disappeared. The Hashemite monarch is still keen to keep his traditional role as the custodian of Al-Aksa mosque and Palestinian encroachment in eastern Jerusalem is a major source of concern to Hussein as well as to Netanyahu. The opening of an exit to the Hasmonaean Tunnel, which led to the recent friction between Hussein and Netanyahu, annoyed Jordan precisely because it was viewed in the Arab world as a weakening of Jordan's status as the guardian of the Moslem holy places in Jerusalem.

But in the longer term, it is beneficial for Israel that Palestinian and Jordanian leaders be on good terms. It is Israel, after all, that has for years hoped that Jordan would be a moderating influence on, if not a substitute for, Palestinian sovereignty. While the king gave up all claims to Judea and Samaria in 1988, Israel hoped that Jordan would some day be persuaded to assume a role in any permanent status arrangement for the territories.

Both Hussein and Arafat have a strong interest in keeping the other happy enough not to stir up

trouble, but not so happy that they forget what the other is capable of doing. It was only recently that the king made a televised speech to top Jordanian military brass recalling the battles of 1970, in which Jordan crushed and expelled the PLO. At the same time, recent bread riots in Jordan showed how Arafat, if he wanted to, might be able to make life miserable for the king through his influence with Jordan's Palestinian population.

But all sides, including Israel, should realize that Jordanian-Palestinian conflict is not in their interest. All the parties have a stronger interest in good relations, and Israel could signal this immediately by increasing the economic ties between Palestinians and Jordanians through the elimination of all protectionist regulations imposed by Israel. The improvement of both the Palestinian and Jordanian economies should be an Israeli foreign policy aim. While it would not be beneficial to end Palestinian economic dependence on Israel, there is ample room for shifting some of that dependence to Jordan, thereby increasing Jordanian influence.

Whatever is accomplished by the recent meetings of Middle East leaders - Weizman and Arafat, Weizman and Mubarak, Peres and Arafat, and Hussein and Arafat - it does seem that the only leader who can't get a meeting is Netanyahu. While the regional shunning is ostensibly to keep the pressure on Israel to withdraw from Hebron, one wonders whether after that the Arab world will simply move on to the next reason to keep Israel's democratically elected leader at arm's length.

In a fairer world, Arab leaders would not get away with acting as if Netanyahu is intransigent, when in fact he has made tremendous strides away from his own campaign rhetoric and toward the Oslo framework. Although there is room for complaint about the pace of the new government's embrace of Oslo, it is also arguable that that acceptance has been more extensive and rapid than anyone might have predicted.

Until now, Netanyahu has received almost no credit for the journey he has made, even from friends like the United States. Instead, there has only been more pressure to move faster. If the isolation of Netanyahu continues after Israel agrees to withdraw from Hebron, it will be clear that Arab world is taking advantage of the wall of pressure. In that case, one hopes the United States and even the Israeli opposition will realize that such unrestrained and unfair pressure tactics will boomerang against the peace process. Pressure can lead to progress, but it can also lead to paralysis.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

THE JEWS OF JAPAN

Sir, - Burials in Japan are rare and Jewish burials have been extremely rare. In accordance with Buddhist rite, cremation is the common practice. Foreigners living in Japan have had to petition the government for burial.

One of the first known Jewish cemeteries in Japan is in Nagasaki, a port city officially opened to foreigners on July 1, 1859. Within the following 10 years, an American Jewish sailor, Solomon Keeler, died and was buried at the Inasa International Cemetery. The Jewish community of Kobe was established in the 1930s and it, too, received consecrated ground for burial purposes in Kobe's Foreign Cemetery. The largest foreign cemetery is located in Yokohama.

As soon as Japan was opened to Western trade, Jews came first to Yokohama and later to Tokyo (the two cities adjoin each other). With the first Jewish death (exact year unknown), a separate section of the Yokohama Foreign Cemetery was consecrated as a Jewish cemetery. There are 115 graves in the cemetery; 1869 is the earliest date one is able to read on the tombstones.

The Jewish Community of Japan, located in Tokyo, is the largest Jewish community in the country. It is

estimated that there are about 1,000 Jews in Tokyo and another 1,000 Jews throughout Japan. The only other synagogue is located in Kobe. The Tokyo community maintains a rabbi, provides all religious services, a kosher kitchen, a religious school for children, an adult education program and a full range of community activities.

The members of the Tokyo Jewish community also volunteer for its *Hevra Kadisha*. Many additional members give their time to attend to the graves in the cemetery, since there are very few relatives living in Japan of those who are buried in the Yokohama Foreign General Cemetery.

The Jewish Community of Japan is eager to receive information from Jews living around the world who might have relatives or friends buried in the Yokohama cemetery. It would be valuable to create files on those who are buried in Japan so that their life stories will be known for future generations. Please send information to the undersigned, at the Jewish Community of Japan, 3-8-8 Hiroo, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo 150, Japan.

JAMES M. LEBEAU, RABBI Tokyo.

FOREWARNED

Sir, - Your editorial of September 30 seems to have overlooked the most important aspect of what took place following the opening of the Hasmonaean Tunnel. Ami Ayalon clearly stated he misjudged the Palestinian reaction, and it is to that statement one must look for the prime minister's decision to go ahead and open the tunnel's exit.

It was anticipated that Arafat would hit the ceiling, not for the reasons he gave in saying this is a direct attack against Moslem and Christian holy places, but because he hoped that in saying that, the Moslem and Christian worlds would support his next step - inciting his people to march on Jerusalem.

Ami Ayalon had judged correctly that Arafat would take issue when informed the tunnel was open. What he had misjudged was that Arafat would so foolishly ruin his own case by encouraging the use of firearms

so wantonly, so imprudently and so soon. And for a totally irrelevant and unimportant reason.

Now the cat is out of the bag. Now it is clear to all that Arafat is not seeking a peaceful solution. He has used the "peace process" as a starting point in the eventual march upon Jerusalem. He has clearly demonstrated that he seeks what he has always declared he wants - the "final solution" to the Jewish occupation of Arab lands.

Forewarned is forearmed, so let us all be thankful to the Prime Minister and to Ami Ayalon for enabling us to see into the future, and to be so quickly awakened to the terrible danger which the Oslo Accords could place us in. Now the government can take all the steps essential to ensuring the security with peace this government has promised us.

STANLEY BROZA, Tel Aviv.

THE HASMONAEN TUNNEL

Sir, - I would like to assure Abraham Rabinovich ("Power of disdain to destroy," September 30) that the majority of Israelis are confident that our prime minister knows exactly where he is going, which is, we hope, as far as possible from the Oslo trap into which the Labor government led us.

How can anyone expect Bibi Netanyahu to perform miracles and rectify, within these first 100 days, the inherited blunders created over the four years of the previous administration? Our prime minister is obviously endeavoring to salvage some measure of security and dignity from the catastrophic mess into which Israel has been led.

BETTY MISHEIKER Jerusalem.

Sir, - I would like to express my admiration of Abraham Rabinovich's article. In my opinion, the article contains a sober and realistic analysis of the causes that triggered the latest tragic incidents and of the performance of our prime minister. Tel Aviv.

Sir, - By virtually blaming Prime Minister Netanyahu's rhetoric and actions regarding the Hasmonaean Tunnel for the recent Palestinian violence, Abraham Rabinovich echoes the mindset of some in the foreign press who see Israel as the culprit in every setback in the peace negotiations.

I find it especially dismaying that a reporter so knowledgeable of Jerusalem's archeological past would depict the opening of the tunnel into the Moslem Quarter as a provocative act. The explosion of Palestinian rage owes less to Netanyahu's lack of empathy for Arab sensitivities than to Arafat's calculated determination to settle political disputes in the streets. And, as Arafat clearly recognizes, it feeds upon the residual animosity of the Moslem world to any manifestation of a historical Jewish presence in Jerusalem.

Seen in this light, the protests against the tunnel are not about an intrusion on Arab turf. They are a shot across the bow in the struggle for political control of Jerusalem.

JACK E. FRIEDMAN Jerusalem.

هللا من الاصل

The Jerusalem Post
It's Sad but true
DAVID GLASSER

Good smells make good neighbors

MATT CRENSON

THE climate-controlled, color-coordinated and tropical plant-lined corridors of the prototypical US shopping mall can make visitors feel like subjects of a carefully planned psychological experiment.

And this is exactly what shoppers became recently, when Robert Baron and his researchers entered Crossgates Mall in upstate New York.

As consumers strolled past shops selling everything from cookies to clothes, they encountered young folk requesting change for a dollar or clumsily dropping ballpoint pens. Little did the subjects suspect that their conduct was being evaluated.

The researchers were trying to see if the heady aroma of coffee or the soothing smell of baking cookies might lull people into acts of kindness they would otherwise forgo.

One of two experiments showed that while under the olfactory influence of roasting coffee or baking cookies, people were more than twice as likely to provide a stranger with change for a dollar than they were in unscented surroundings.

The dropped-pen experiment produced similar results. "Lo and behold, when there was a pleasant fragrance in the air people were more helpful," said Baron, a professor at the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy.

Each experiment tested the helpfulness of 116 shoppers, and both tried to match the scented and unscented test areas as much as possible for things like time of day, volume of pedestrian traffic, proximity to mall entrances and lighting.

The experiments also gender-matched testers and subjects, with only men approaching male shoppers and only women approaching female shoppers.

That limitation was requested by mall director Charles Breidebach, who worried that shoppers — especially women — might interpret a change request as a lame pick-up effort.

In a paper, accepted for publication in a future issue of *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*, Baron explains how pleasant smells might lead to good deeds.

"The effects of pleasant fragrances on social behavior stem, at least in part, from fragrance-induced increments in positive affect," Baron writes. So, good smells make people happy. And when people feel happy, they're nice to one another. "There's nothing magical," Baron said. "When you put people in a good mood... they become more helpful."

The opposite is also true, notes Craig Anderson of the University of Missouri at Columbia.

Unpleasant smells can make people frighteningly aggressive by putting them in a bad mood. So can annoying noises, uncomfortably hot surroundings and other seemingly minor irritants. Research has shown that murder rates go up in concert with uncomfortable summer temperatures.

"That's what makes it fascinating to social psychologists," Anderson said.

"How can someone believe that murder rates... could possibly be influenced by somebody being uncomfortable because it's hot?"

Baron can't explain it all, but he said he's confident enough in the phenomenon that he's sunk half his life savings into it.

Baron holds patents on a device he calls a combination air filter, white-noise generator and fragrance producer designed to reduce the stress of living in close quarters.

Owners of the gizmo can boost their mood by simultaneously drowning out background noise, cleaning their air and, if they like, scenting their surroundings with one of three fragrances: citrus, floral or something Baron calls "fresh."

"It combines all my research on the environment," he said. (AP)

Birthday candles that light darkness

A weekly meeting for desperate mothers can have a big impact on their children's future, Esther Hecht reports

ESTHER Danino remembers a time when birthdays brought joy. That was when she was still single and working at the Dr. Fisher cosmetics factory in Bnei Brak and each year her colleagues would surprise her with a party.

But an arranged marriage that quickly turned sour, a move to Yavne where she knew no one, babies in rapid succession and a constant struggle with poverty put an end to even simple pleasures. Eventually, they put an end to hope too.

For years, she gritted her teeth and tried to accept her lot. Religiously observant since her father's death 12 years ago, she believed everything — including her troubled marriage — was heaven-sent.

"After I got married, each birthday I would say to myself, 'Mazel tov, Esti, maybe next year will be better,'" she recalls. "That was all the celebrating I did."

But things only got worse and there were times that were beyond bearing. "I couldn't even talk about it," she says. "I would go to the social worker and just sit there and cry." In this desperate situation, she was about to give birth to her third child. But it was then that a social worker made a simple proposition: She offered Danino a chance to join Yahdav, a small group of women near her home, for 90 minutes a week of quality time.

The families offered a "last chance" by the Yahdav program are usually the most problematic ones social workers encounter. Often they're second- or third-generation welfare cases and have dropped out of all previous self-help programs.

Generally, they're suspicious of the authorities, according to Yahdav's national coordinator Marjan Kampmeyer. "Their experience is that the authorities can take their children away," she explains.

Yahdav's ambitious goal is to enable the children to grow up at home by helping the parents give them better care. Ultimately, the program aims to break the welfare cycle.

Yahdav is a joint project of the Labor and Social Affairs Ministry and the American-Social Women's League for Israel. Its group effort is supplemented by work with individual families by social workers.

"Our assumption is that women have the knowledge but don't know how to use it," Kampmeyer says. "The group has a lot of strength. They know what it's like to live with five children in 1 1/2 rooms, to live on NIS 1,500 a month."

THE OFFER to join Yahdav was one Danino couldn't refuse, though at first — after years



Through participation in Yahdav, Esther Danino (left) and Miriam Ben-Shushan learned about independence and how to ease their children into routines. (A. Jernolinski)

of no social life or even a friend to talk to — she found it difficult. At the first meeting, after coffee and cake, the group facilitator asked each woman to choose a picture from a stack taken from magazines and talk about it. Just choosing a picture was hard enough, talking about it was even harder. "When the group started, I was in a very different stage of my life; I couldn't talk to anyone," Danino, 41, recalls.

Gradually, the women — all of them trapped in poverty, abusive marriages, or other cycles of despair — got to know each other and slowly they opened up, their candor fostered by a few basic ground rules. "We promised each other confidentiality," says Miriam Ben-Shushan, 38, a veteran group member. "And we emphasized persistence [in attending meetings]."

Nevertheless, members dropped out and new women joined. The location changed three times and even the group facilitator left and had to be replaced, precipitating a crisis in the group. But, like Danino, Ben-Shushan

clung to the meetings as to a lifeline.

Born in Morocco, Ben-Shushan came here when she was five and grew up in Yeroham. During the Yom Kippur War she dropped out of school in her last year to help support her married sister's family. Years later, she accepted an arranged marriage with a Yavne man many years her senior. Like Danino, she saw this match — and the troubles her marriage brought — as her fate, something over which she had no control.

In the group, Danino and Ben-Shushan started learning how they could take control of their lives, especially in their crucial role as parents. Besides two toddlers, Danino now had a newborn daughter whom she couldn't perceive as a separate person, putting the child at severe developmental risk. Ben-Shushan's oldest child was hyperactive; her two younger children knew bad habits and bedtime had become a nightmare.

From the group facilitators the mothers learned the concept of autonomy and how to ease the children into routines. "Now I tell them it's 8 o'clock and it's time to get ready for bed," Ben-Shushan says. Some of the tips came from other group members. "One of them said, 'Promise them a reward,'" Ben-Shushan continues. "I learned a reward doesn't have to be candy; it can be just a kind word, it worked, and it still works."

Being in a learning situation again was an experience they relished. "We felt like students," Danino says proudly, showing off a decorated binder filled with "homework," page after page written in her neat hand. In the same neat hand, this year she recorded minutes of a meeting of Yahdav groups from around the country.

DANINO'S home is a small, dark, ground-floor apartment in a prefabricated Amidar housing project. The living room is tidy, but the furnishings — a sofa and armchairs; a small kitchen table and chairs — are shabby and plain. Just one decoration brightens the walls: a large, brightly colored poster with a delicate paisley border she prepared for her six-year-old son's birthday.

It was in meetings of the group that Danino again experienced the simple joy of a birthday. "We give each member a token gift, like a flower. Often it's received with tears," says Marjan Kampmeyer, national coordinator of Yahdav.

Awakening a sense of joy in the mother is a way of helping her children, who are the ultimate target of the program, Kampmeyer explains. Once a mother knows what it feels like to be the center of pleasurable attention, she will want to do that for her own child, she says.

Both Danino and Ben-Shushan agree the lessons in parenting were over too soon. But they also know that the three years in Yahdav have changed their lives in important ways. Danino is now aware enough of her youngest child's autonomy to want to place her in day-care.

She's also in close touch with her older children's teachers. Most important, she has obtained a separation from her husband, though on her rabbi's advice she has refused a divorce. A broad smile lights her face as she speaks with relief about this last change: "I feel better and stronger now," she says.

Ben-Shushan is resigned to her difficult home situation, but feels much more able to guide her children. She's learned she can take initiative; she even helped a group member obtain permanent public housing. And she also feels independent now, so much so that she has asked to become a facilitator in a Yahdav group.

Now, in its 10th year, Yahdav encompasses 285 families in 20 communities. There are also 80 families in follow-up programs. There are two groups of Israeli Arabs and plans for groups for the Beduin community. A group of Ethiopian immigrants is also in the offing. In all, the program currently touches 918 children.

"But, like most such programs, each year brings a new scramble for funding."

According to Kampmeyer, the estimated cost per family for the three-year program is NIS 5,000. This, she believes, is a small price to pay: "If this prevents the children from

Take advantage of your children's mastery of Hebrew

PARENTING
RUTH MASON

Is it harmful for the parent-child relationship for the child to speak Hebrew better than the parents? If so, what can the parents do to lessen or repair the damage?

Karen Goldberg, MSSW, child and family therapist, Maccabim, replies:

If it is harmful for a child to speak Hebrew better than his parents, just think of all the harm that has been done in the State of Israel over the years with the influx of thousands of immigrant families!

In many situations, parents rely on their children to advance in the new language and to act as translators for them at government offices, in stores and in public places.

Parents expect their child to want to take on this responsibility even if it means giving up being with their friends.

Parents are often frustrated to know that

their children understand what is being said and that they do not, and that they need help from someone younger than them.

Parents also have difficulty, on the other hand, trusting that what their children translate is accurate. They, themselves, would like to know what is being said and how to respond.

While some children are happy to help their parents because they understand the importance of their knowing the language and taking on the responsibility to help out, not every child feels this way. Some children are embarrassed and ashamed of their parents and try not to be seen in public with them.

Much of what happens in public and in

private depends on what the relationship between the parents and the child is prior to coming to Israel, to learning Hebrew and to dealing with public situations.

The new country, the new language, the new surroundings and the need for cooperation and understanding — all are issues that need to be dealt with by the parents in order for there to be greater understanding between the generations.

When parental frustration for not knowing the language can be named as an issue, both the children and the parents can come another step closer to a better understanding between them.

How parents convey their needs and their appreciation to their children for their time

and effort are factors in lessening the tension that may occur. When children are able to understand what is expected of them, they are able to assist more effectively.

Many factors influence the quality of any parent-child relationship. Language may certainly be an issue, but it is not the only issue. Change is difficult and a new language is certainly change.

For the parents to feel in control and powerful, language is an important key; when we don't know a language, we often feel inadequate or unsuccessful. For the child, feelings of success and pride in himself and his parents are strong factors.

When the child is able to understand his parents' limitations and the need to assist his parents, he is able to come to terms with the situation and to deal with any feelings of shame or embarrassment he may have.

Romania tackles issue of lost Jewish assets

ROXANA DASCALU

ROMANIA, which saw Eastern Europe's biggest post-war exodus of Jews, is getting down to the business of returning to ethnic minorities assets seized first by fascists allied with the Nazis and later by the communists.

Fourteen ethnic groups are seeking restitution, including Hungarians, Germans, Turks and Greeks. But the Jews' quest is almost certainly the most poignant.

Half of Romania's 800,000 Jews perished in Nazi death camps during World War II; most were rounded up as the Nazis left the region in panic before the Red Army's westward advance. Of those who survived, 320,000 left communist Romania for Israel and elsewhere. Only 14,000 remain, most of them over 60.

The issue of lost Jewish assets resurfaced when Foreign Minister Teodor Melescanu visited the US early this month to rally support for Romania's bid for fast-track admission to NATO. Melescanu met US Jewish leaders, who praised cooperation between Romania's Jewish community and the government. "Romania is the only East European country which has given unlimited access to minorities to investigate state archives to look for confiscated assets," said Ivan Truter, who heads a commission on the

ordered the return of confiscated Jewish properties. But four years later, the communists took them back again through full-scale nationalization.

Lost Jewish assets include 295 demolished synagogues and hundreds of expropriated properties — 165 schools and 31 hospitals as well as ritual baths and homes for the elderly.

The Securitate secret police of executed dictator Nicolae Ceausescu turned a milkve in the main Transylvanian city of Cluj into an Olympic-size swimming pool. The bath is now used as a warehouse. Carpenters use a former synagogue in Oradea, on the western border with Hungary, as their workshop.

Unlike other European countries, Romania pays no damages to Holocaust survivors, saying that is the responsibility of others, like Hungary. "Jews who returned from camps get some help from local authorities in Hungary," Sorin said. "We don't get any assistance. We have to take care of ourselves ourselves."

Sorin hopes the return of Jewish assets would provide an alternative source of funding. "We don't want to throw anybody out," said Sorin. "What we want is to be able to charge the rent owed to us, so that

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Tour guide: Israel Shalem

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In the region settled by the tribe of Judah, the moabim and kibbutzim still retain their rustic atmosphere. We'll visit Mitspeh Masu'ah, Beit Jamal monastery, the Avshalom cave of stalagmites and stalactites, the Pilots' memorial and more. Come and immerse yourself in the history of both Judaism and Christianity.
NIS 185 (including lunch)
Tour guide: Carol-Anne Bernheim

Sunday Dec. 22 ON THE TRAIL OF BAR KOCHBA
With the support of Rabbi Akiva, Bar Kochba built an army and rebelled against the Romans. After three years of battles, during which time the population built an enormous underground system, the revolt was put down and Jewish settlement in Judea was destroyed. We'll visit the Amasia and Hazan caves (an underground city), the huge complex of Beit Guvrin, Jerusalem's Shrine of the Book which contains the letters of Bar Kochba found in the Judean Desert etc.
NIS 195 (including lunch)
Tour guide: Carol-Anne Bernheim

The tour price includes transportation from Jerusalem or Tel Aviv and return, entrance to all sites, background lectures and on-the-spot explanations. Lunch as indicated. 10% off when you book all four tours. Pick-up and drop-off along the route when possible and arranged beforehand.

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BUSINESS & FINANCE

Wednesday, October 16, 1996

8

Central bank: Economic slowdown continued in third quarter

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

THE economy continued to slow in the third quarter, as it has since the start of the year, the Bank of Israel said in its seasonal survey of companies' activities yesterday.

The construction and hotel sectors saw the biggest declines.

The performance of industrial, trade, transport, and communication companies remained generally unchanged, after taking into account seasonal changes.

Industrial companies reported no change in sales and orders for local and export markets. Still, those companies saw a drop in workers, for the second consecutive quarter.

In the construction sector, companies reported lower activity, both in housing and other fields. The volume of construction starts

fell for the first time in many years, while the level of finished structures remained unchanged. These firms said there was no change in production prices and the average time it takes to construct a building, compared to the second quarter.

In the hotel industry, the companies reported a drop in activity in comparison with their performance over the same period last year. The decrease was due to a drop in overnight stays by tourists, which was partly offset by a rise in the number of Israelis staying at hotels here. The majority of hoteliers blamed the decline on the security situation, adding that they expect to report a further drop in activity in the fourth quarter.

Slavin to replace Brodet in early '97

DAVID HARRIS

A SENIOR source in Mifal Hapais confirmed its managing director Shmuel Slavin will replace Treasury director general David Brodet early next year, but no date has yet been arranged.

A long-time Likud party activist, Slavin yesterday said he would not be interviewed about this subject at the present time.

Ministry spokesman Eli Yosef would only say that when Finance Minister Dan Meridor came into office he requested Brodet stay on. "Nothing has changed. Brodet is here," Yosef said.

Meanwhile, a senior official in the Prime Minister's office said yesterday that Meridor has already offered Slavin the job of director-general of the Treasury from the

end of the year.

The decision to appoint Slavin appears not to be linked to the reception of the Brodet committee's report on structural reforms in the capital markets. Earlier this week, the cabinet voted not to accept some of the report's tax recommendations.

The question of the timing of the appointment could depend on two factors - the speed at which the 1997 budget proposals pass through the Knesset, and the proposals of a new three-person team looking at the capital markets.

The team, which comprises Brodet, the Prime Minister's adviser on the economy, Moshe Leon, and a representative of the

Bank of Israel, has been given two weeks to find alternatives to the Brodet report's recommendation to tax interest on short- and medium-term savings.

If this new team proves unsuccessful, with the cabinet rejecting its proposals, Brodet will in all probability decide his position is untenable and resign earlier, according to the official in the Prime Minister's Office.

Meanwhile, the Chambers of Commerce association said yesterday the lack of support for the Brodet committee recommendations was a mistake.

"The bands of the Finance Minister and Brodet committee should be strengthened," said a statement from the association.

Oil near 6-year highs on pre-winter shortage

LONDON (Reuters) - Buoyant world oil markets traded near six-year highs yesterday after resuming a storming bull run that has carried prices up 40 percent in the space of four months.

November futures for international benchmark North Sea Brent-blend crude broke above \$25 a barrel for the first time since the 1991 Gulf War, after adding 88 cents on Monday.

Brent has shot up by \$7 a barrel since mid-June, driven by concern over tensions in the Middle East and persistently low stocks of heating oil in Western markets.

By mid-afternoon, November Brent was trading down 21 cents at \$24.65 on profit-taking, but traders expected it to revive again.

With the exception of the Gulf War, crude has not been as costly, in nominal terms, since the second oil-price shock, which followed the 1979 Iranian revolution.

Fresh fighting between rival Kurdish factions in Iraq since the weekend has served to remind

markets of the missing crude supplies previously expected under a UN oil-for-food exchange with Iraq.

"Iraqi oil exports under UN resolution 986 this year are now impossible to estimate and, in the light of recent developments in the Kurdish areas of Iraq, they may well not begin until the second half of 1997, if at all," the Center for Global Energy Studies said in a report.

The UN deal, signed in May and worth several hundred thousand barrels a day of crude supplies, was suspended at the end of August, after Baghdad sent troops to intervene on behalf of the Kurdistan Democratic Party against the rival Patriotic Union of Kurdistan. The KDP yesterday launched a counter-attack, after the PUK regained the region's largest city, Sulaimaniya, on Sunday.

"The oil market looks set to remain tight through the coming winter," said Leo Drollas, chief economist at the Center for

Global Energy Studies.

Dealers said low stocks of heating-oil in the US and Europe in the approach to winter also propelled futures markets higher, as refinery buyers and traders hedged against rising supply costs.

The fund managers that control huge investment accounts have also joined the oil rally in force.

Heating oil stocks are running about 10% down on last year's already slim levels in both north-west Europe and the US. Analysts say oil companies are partly to blame. Keen to cut costs by holding low inventories, some refiners have been caught short in a scramble to replenish winter stocks.

Meanwhile, markets look unlikely to get any help from extra OPEC supplies. The oil cartel has no plans to raise output, for fear of undermining a market that is providing extra revenues.

Oil analysts estimate the 11 OPEC members will land a \$25 billion windfall this year in extra oil export revenues.

First Int'l offers provident fund with guaranteed real yield

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

FIRST International Bank and its Fibi Holdings subsidiary have started to offer a provident fund that guarantees investors a real yield, in an attempt to encourage savers to invest in the battered funds market.

This is the first time in many years a bank has offered a fund that guarantees positive interest rates. During the last few months, many savers have withdrawn their money from provident funds, primarily because of a stock-market crisis that has led the banks to register negative yields on the funds.

The bank said the Maten 2001 fund will allow savers to maintain the real value of their investments and earn a fixed, positive interest-rate. The fund will guarantee investors a real interest-rate of 4 percent a year over a five-year period. The fund is limited to total deposits of NIS250 million.

According to Bank of Israel regulations, banks are restricted from offering provident funds with a guaranteed yield. But First International has bypassed this limitation through Fibi, which will guarantee the fund's yield.

Banks were able to offer provident funds with a guaranteed interest-rate in the past, when they were backed by special interest-bearing bonds issued by the Bank of Israel that were not traded on an exchange. After the central bank decided to stop issuing these bonds, the banks were forced to stop offering guaranteed funds.

Slovak finance ministry plans increased '97 budget deficit

BRATISLAVA (Reuters) - The Slovak finance ministry yesterday presented revised plans for its 1997 state budget, increasing its expected deficit to 30 billion Slovak crowns (NIS3b) from an original forecast of 25 billion crowns.

Budget revenues would total some 170b. crowns, down from the previously announced 175b. crowns, about 15.9b. crowns more than in 1996, according to the ministry proposal presented to the government.

Plans for budget expenditure remained unchanged at 200b. crowns, some 10b. crowns more than in 1996. The 1996 state budget deficit is planned to total 27b. crowns.

In the first seven months of 1996, the budget deficit totalled 6.08b. crowns, but government officials have said revenues might get tighter later in the year due to lower than expected tax income.

Slovakia has been showing some of the best basic

economic indicators in post-communist Europe. Inflation was at 5.6 percent in August, compared with 9.8% in the same month last year. GDP grew 7.4% in 1995 and 7.1% in the first six months of this year.

The 1997 budget proposal is based on the assumption that GDP will grow at least 5% in 1997 and inflation will be kept under 6%.

According to this forecast, the country's GDP is expected to total 650b. crowns in 1997. The overall deficit should then represent 4.6% of GDP.

But according to International Monetary Fund standards, the 1997 fiscal deficit should total only some 8.6b. crowns, which is 1.32% of the forecast GDP.

The ministry document said the government should discuss the complete draft of the budget on November 12. It should be presented to parliament by November 15.

Cairo summit organizers expect 1,000 businesses to attend

DAVID HARRIS

WITH less than a month remaining until the Cairo economic summit, the organizers at the World Economic Forum say some 600 businesses already have registered, and they expect another 400 to confirm in the coming weeks.

The Egyptian government, which is hosting the summit, sent invitations to 87 governments and

47 regional and international organizations. As of yesterday, 18 countries had confirmed the participation of their foreign, finance, or trade ministers.

The quality and level of business participation is consistent with that of last year's summit in

Amman, according to WEF director Gregory Blatt.

WEF president Klaus Schwab is in Cairo this week to complete preparations with Egyptian officials.

Despite some recent threats to cancel the summit because of what Egypt perceived as Israeli inaction on the peace process, there now appears to be a willingness to make a success of the event.

"We are determined to hold the third Middle East/North Africa economic summit," said Nabil Fahmy, Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Moussa's political adviser, during a recent visit to New York.

"We will do everything we can to make this summit a success."

In addition to the plenary sessions during the three-day event, countries including Egypt, Oman, Jordan, Israel, and Qatar, together with representatives of the PA, will showcase project presentations.



An elderly man holds a placard reading 'Eight months without salary' during a demonstration outside the Ukrainian parliament in Kiev yesterday. A group of scientists protested as Prime Minister Pavlo Lazarenko presented the new three-year economic plan to parliament. (Reuters)

J'lem researchers develop chip to aid surgeons

DAVID HARRIS

A TEAM of Jerusalem researchers has successfully developed an electronic chip capable of creating an image from an object's thermal radiation.

The chip's many applications include the identification - during open-heart surgery - of blocked blood-vessels. It will replace bulky and much more expensive electronic and mechanical devices.

The chip was built by a team at the Jerusalem College of Technology (JCT). It functions in a thermal-sensing camera in a way similar to that of a retina in the human eye, and contains 16,000 tiny thermal-radiation detectors.

The development, by Dr. Shmuel Borenstein, was conducted

in cooperation with Ogal Industries of Karniel and with the center for sub-micron technology at the Weizmann Institute in Rehovot.

In heart surgery, the chip can be used by surgeons to verify proper blood-flow in vessels grafted as coronary bypasses, before the patient is sewn up. Blocked blood-vessels radiate a lower heat-level than healthy ones, making the detection of problems possible with the use of the new thermal sensor.

Until now, the use of such a medical system for open-heart surgery was prohibitively expensive. The JCT sensor will allow for widespread use of thermal imaging for commercial applications.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Shohat charges Knesset Finance Committee fails to address key issues: The Knesset Finance Committee is not doing its job properly, since it is failing to discuss major economic issues, Avraham Shohat (Labor), head of the opposition on the committee, charged this week. Shohat's complaint was supported by several opposition MKs and by Michael Kleiner (Likud). Chairman Avraham Ravitz (United Torah Judaism), however, responded that discussions had already been scheduled on most of the subjects Shohat suggested. Ravitz said the committee has a statutory obligation to deal with the "minor" issues such as budgetary transfers, as well. Evelyn Gordon

Management changes at foodmaker Elite: Elite management has informed workers of a series of personnel changes. Eitan Glick was appointed marketing manager of the food-products company. The company's deputy financial manager and business development manager will leave their posts for other positions. In addition, Elite's manager of purchasing and logistics, Yuval Paz, intends to resign within the next few days. Galit Lipkis Beck

Tambour in cooperation agreement with Chinese paint company: Tambour has signed a cooperation agreement with Wuhan Tianma, a Chinese chemical and paint manufacturer. The companies have agreed to establish a paint production facility in Wuhan at a total investment of \$1 million. Galit Lipkis Beck

Israelis likely to need visas to visit Hong Kong when China takes over: Israelis will probably need visas to enter Hong Kong from January 1, when the British colony becomes part of China, according to Eugene Hirschler, manager of Asiacentre, the appointing agent in Israel for Cathay Pacific Airlines.

At a dinner in Tel Aviv this week, senior representatives of the airline calmed the fears of its frequent flyer program members concerning the transition period. Among the visiting officials were Cathay Pacific's Middle East director, James Yeung, and deputy director, William Ling, as well as the Middle East area manager, Patrick Grant.

Hirschler explained that, until now, Israelis were able to enter Hong Kong without visas by virtue of the fact that Britain does not require visas from Israeli passport holders. However, he said, China does require visas.

About 60 frequent flyers attended the dinner. Hirschler said the number of Cathay Pacific frequent flyers was expected to go down, in the light of El Al's impending inauguration of direct flights to Hong Kong. But he added that despite this, the Hong Kong airline would continue to cooperate with El Al. Haim Shapiro

Diners Club sponsors London-Jerusalem car rally: Diners Club International will be the official car sponsor of the first ever Jewish National Fund/Eagle Eye London-Jerusalem Car Rally, which takes place from October 17 to November 4. A spectacular range of cars dating from a 1924 Lanchester to the latest Jaguar XK8 will depart from Waterloo Place on the 3,000 mile route, through seven countries to finish at the Knesset in Jerusalem. Galit Lipkis Beck

Buffett's Berkshire Hathaway to buy FlightSafety for \$1.5b: Berkshire Hathaway Inc., the holding company controlled by billionaire Warren Buffett, said yesterday it was acquiring FlightSafety International Inc. for about \$1.5 billion.

Berkshire Hathaway said it executed a definitive agreement in which FlightSafety, which provides high-technology training to operators of aircraft and ships, will become a wholly owned subsidiary.

The company said FlightSafety shareholders can elect to receive for each of their shares either \$50 in cash or \$48 in Berkshire common stock, for a total value of about \$1.5b.

FlightSafety's stock soared after the news, adding \$5.125 to \$49 by midday on the New York Stock Exchange. Berkshire Hathaway's stock lost \$100 to \$31,800. Reuter

Movenpick opens here, will invest NIS150m. in 10 motels

HAIM SHAPIRO and GALIT LIPKIS BECK

MOVENPICK, the giant Swiss restaurant and hotel chain, yesterday opened its operations here with the inauguration of a Movenpick Marche self-service restaurant at Kibbutz Dovrat near Afula.

Movenpick also is negotiating to establish an ice-cream factory in partnership with a local manufacturer, the company's representatives told the Ministry of Industry and Trade this week. In addition, the firm's representatives announced plans to establish 10 motels throughout the country at a total investment of NIS150 million.

At a press conference in Jerusalem this week, Jean-Pierre Streich, the company's executive vice-president for management services, said its entry here is part of Movenpick's regional planning for Egypt, Jordan, and Israel.

"We have faith in the peace process, even if it has its ups and downs," Streich said.

Yossi Fischer, head of Movenpick's operations in Israel, said the company's restaurants would not have a kosher certificate, because they would be open on Shabbat. All the ingredients would be kosher, he said, and meat and milk products would not be cooked together.

"There will be no pepperoni pizza," Fischer said.

Fischer added, however, that the idea of the Movenpick Marche is based upon individual cooking islands at which various items are sold and, therefore, both meat and dairy items will be available in the same restaurants.

The franchise for the Movenpick Marche restaurants is held by Shargad Orkhanim, owned by Sari Arison, and the Odkhabei Derech network, a company owned jointly by Shargad Orkhanim and kibbutzim that own land adjacent to highways.

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| U.S. dollar (\$250,000) | 4.750 | 5.000 | 5.375 | |
| Pound sterling (£100,000) | 3.875 | 4.000 | 4.250 | |
| German mark (DM 200,000) | 1.825 | 1.825 | 2.125 | |
| Swiss franc (SF 200,000) | 0.825 | 0.750 | 1.000 | |
| Yen (10 million yen) | | | | |

(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

| Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (15.10.96) | | | | |
|---|--------|--------|-----------|--------|
| CHECKS AND TRANSFERS | | | | |
| Currency basket | Buy | Sell | Banknotes | Rep. |
| U.S. dollar | 3.5301 | 3.5871 | — | 3.5648 |
| German mark | 3.1845 | 3.2158 | 3.11 | 3.1870 |
| Pound sterling | 2.0283 | 2.0915 | 2.09 | 2.0772 |
| French franc | 5.0052 | 5.0980 | 4.91 | 5.18 |
| Japanese yen (100) | 0.0281 | 0.0190 | 0.09 | 0.0137 |
| Dutch guilder | 2.8188 | 2.8848 | 2.77 | 2.8487 |
| Swiss franc | 1.8344 | 1.8840 | 1.80 | 1.8594 |
| Norwegian krona | 0.4785 | 0.5421 | 0.45 | 0.5288 |
| Danish krone | 0.4883 | 0.4832 | 0.47 | 0.4823 |
| Finnish mark | 0.5370 | 0.5487 | 0.52 | 0.4898 |
| Canadian dollar | 0.8892 | 0.7054 | 0.67 | 0.8116 |
| Australian dollar | 2.3388 | 2.3787 | 0.67 | 0.8844 |
| S. African rand | 2.8089 | 2.5483 | 2.48 | 2.8840 |
| Belgian franc (10) | 0.8873 | 0.7088 | 0.63 | 0.7038 |
| Austrian schilling (10) | 1.0150 | 2.9723 | 0.88 | 1.0072 |
| Italian lire (100) | 2.0717 | 2.1022 | 2.03 | 2.0513 |
| Jordanian dinar | 4.4000 | 4.7000 | 4.40 | 4.5897 |
| Egyptian pound | 3.9503 | 4.0141 | 0.80 | 1.0071 |
| Irish punt | 5.0989 | 5.1980 | 4.98 | 5.1408 |
| Spanish peseta (100) | 2.4476 | 2.4870 | 2.40 | 2.4894 |

*These rates vary according to bank. **Bank of Israel. SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

הקדמה מן אלו

הדא מן האל

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Stocks jump on Hebron pact hope

TEL AVIV STOCK MARKET

FELICE MARANZ



Stocks surged amid optimism peace talks may be making progress and that inflation may be waning. Hints that an agreement regarding a withdrawal from Hebron may be near...

European stocks track Wall Street's gains

WORLD MARKET ROUNDUP

LONDON (Reuters) - UK stocks hit record highs yesterday, but ended on a subdued note after Wall Street failed to live up to a promising start. The FTSE 100 index, underpinned by soaring sterling...

Wall Street stocks fall as profit-taking offsets earnings by Intel, GM

WALL STREET REPORT

NEW YORK (AP) - The Dow Jones industrial average fell slightly yesterday, a day after its first closing above 6,000, as profit-taking offset strong earnings reports from market heavyweights such as Intel and General Motors.

CURRENCY CROSS-RATES

Table with columns: R, MARK, STERLING, YEN, SFR, FFY. Lists various currencies and their exchange rates.

TEL AVIV STOCKS

Large table of stock prices categorized by Multi-sided trading and Two-sided trading. Includes columns for Name, Price, Change, Volume, and Share.

Key Representative Rates table showing US dollar, Sterling, and Mark rates against NIS.

NEW YORK STOCK MARKET table showing various market indices like DJ Industrials, NYSE Composite, etc.

Other stock market indexes table including FTSE-100, Nikkei, and Hang Seng.

Israeli stocks in US table listing companies like Intel, Bank Leumi, etc.

AG, AMEX, NASDAQ, OTC table listing various international and over-the-counter stocks.

INTEL-MONEY MARKETS table showing interest rates for various terms.

Dollar crossrates (US) table showing exchange rates for various currencies.

Labor rates table showing wages for different professions.

Foreign financial data courtesy of CommStock Trading Ltd. table.

INFLATION AND METALS table showing commodity prices.

US commodities table listing prices for various goods.

London metal fixes table showing prices for various metals.

ISRAEL DISCOUNT BANK advertisement with logo and slogan 'THE PEOPLE YOU CAN BANK ON'.

INTERNATIONAL STOCK PRICES

Large table of international stock prices for various countries including New York, London, Frankfurt, and Paris.

Vertical text on the left margin: 'October 16, 1996', 'IEFS', 'see failing to address...', 'Chinese point comp...', 'ing Kong when Chi...'

Vertical text on the left margin: 'here. w...', '10 moe...', 'MARKETS', 'BANKNOTES', 'Buy...'

Braves hammer Cardinals, 14-0

Costa cruises past Ran at Eisenberg

ST. LOUIS (AP) - They were swift, startling and merciless. The Atlanta Braves needed merely to beat the St. Louis Cardinals to avoid elimination in the NL championship series.

Instead, they beat them up. Spraying his with a vengeance from the start, the defending World Series champions matched the biggest rout in postseason history, overwhelming St. Louis 14-0 Monday night to close their deficit to 3-2.

It was as if, overnight, the Braves decided they were not about to let their season end. "I had a short meeting, nothing real big. It wasn't like 'Let's all have a nice winter. It was more like I expect to play 7-10 more games,'" Atlanta manager Bobby Cox said.

The Braves silenced the Busch Stadium record crowd of 56,782 that came to see a clincher with a five-run first inning, then kept attacking in an awesome display that set LCS records for hits and most lopsided victory.

"Before they could even get their popcorn and beer, they were down five," Atlanta's Chipper Jones said. "I didn't sense the killer instinct in us last night. Tonight, I did."

The Braves never let up. They finished with 22 hits, and even stole a base with the game out of hand.

There were smashes off the walls, and far over them. There were shots up the middle and into the corners. The cuts were hard, too - Fred McGriff knocked down first baseman John Mabry with a line drive.

By the time Javy Lopez singled in the fourth, every Braves batter had gotten a hit. When he homered

Atlanta cuts lead to 3-2, hosts Game 6 today



HOT CORNER HAVEN - Marquis Grissom slides safely into third base as Cards 3B Gary Gaetti reaches for wide throw in third-inning action.

to dead center the next inning. Atlanta led 11-0 and already had set an NLCS record with 17 hits.

The Braves, a team that began the game batting only .213 in this year's postseason, got four hits each from Mark Lemke and Lopez.

"We got out early and took their crowd out of it," Lemke said. "I think you have to credit the whole offense. We really came through."

Atlanta's runaway victory, following two one-run defeats, ended St. Louis' nine-game home winning streak in postseason play. And, it gave the Braves all the more reason to think these playoffs would still turn out OK.

Four-time Cy Young Award winner Greg Maddux will pitch Game 6 today against St. Louis' Doovan Osborne. If the Braves win, they'll start Tom Glavine, MVP of last year's World Series, in Game 7 tomorrow.

The Cardinals, meanwhile, will certainly continue to bear more about some of their past failures.

Of the 47 teams to take 3-1 leads in postseason series, 40 have gone on to win - St. Louis is the only club ever to twice blow such an edge, in the 1968 and 1985 World Series.

"Before we could escape, they had put up a couple of crooked numbers," Cardinals manager Tony La Russa said. "It just wasn't any fun. That game got away from us."

The Braves broke the LCS record of 19 hits set by the New York Yankees against Oakland in 1981. The Braves also surpassed the Chicago Cubs' 13-0 win over San Diego in 1984 for the largest

margin of victory in an LCS game. The Braves matched the record for a postseason rout. The New York Yankees beat the New York Giants 18-4 in Game 2 of the 1936 World Series.

The rout gave Cox a chance to relax. With his team far ahead early in the dugout by waving a bat. No doubt, the career .224 hitter would've liked a chance to swing in this game.

Smoltz, not that the Braves needed him on this night, was his usual, brilliant self in October, improving to 8-1 lifetime in the postseason and 3-0 this October. The major league leader in wins and strikeouts this year, he passed Bob Gibson and Whitey Ford to become baseball's career leader in postseason strikeouts with 98.

Todd Stottlemyre, the winner in Game 2, was given the job of pitching the Cardinals to their 16th pennant. He had a extra incentive, too, because a win would put him in the World Series against the New York Yankees, where his father, Mel, is the pitching coach.

But the Braves were not about to accommodate him. Marquis Grissom sliced a single on the first pitch and Lemke doubled off the wall in right. Jones followed with a two-run double to left and McGriff singled for his first RBI of the series.

Only 13 pitches, and Atlanta had four hits and three runs, exactly matching its totals off Stottlemyre in six innings in Game 2. Then again, this time Stottlemyre was pitching on three days' rest for the first time since July 1995, and just the fifth time in his career.

"That's the way it goes," Stottlemyre said. "They were fighting for their lives."

Bobsledder banned for life

LONDON (Reuters) - British Olympic bobsledder Mark Tout has been banned for life after failing a random drugs test, the British Bobsleigh Association said on Monday.

Tout, a competitor at the last four Winter Games, admitted the offense after testing positive for an anabolic steroid last month.

"I've had treatment with no success and then speaking to various people, taking some advice, I felt that maybe taking drugs would help the problem. That was one reason why I tried it. It certainly helped the injury."

"When you are training hard and the injury keeps breaking down, it speeds up the healing. I completely regret doing it. I have seen what's happened to other people and their careers."

"I didn't think I would be caught, otherwise I wouldn't have done it."

Man Utd faces host Fenerbahce in European Cup today

LONDON (AP) - Defending European Cup champions Juventus, with two wins in two matches, will meet Rapid Vienna in one of eight Champions League matches today.

Juventus is sitting comfortably atop Group C with six points, with only Manchester United (three points) looking capable of advancing to the quarter-finals in a group that includes Rapid Vienna and Turkish side Fenerbahce.

In addition to the Rapid Vienna-Juventus match, Manchester United plays at Fenerbahce.

In the other group games today: Group A - Auxerre vs. Grasshoppers, Ajax vs. Glasgow Rangers, Group B - Atletico Madrid vs. Borussia Dortmund, Steau Bucharest vs. Widzew Lodz, Group D - IFK Goteborg vs. AC Milan, Rosenborg vs. FC Porto.

Rapid Vienna coach Ernst Dokupil, calling his team the "stark outsiders," is talking down his club's chances. But history suggests otherwise. Rapid has not lost a European cup match at Ernst Happel stadium since the 1987-88 season. A 50,000-seatout is set for today.

Manchester United is expecting an intimidating time at Fenerbahce. Three years ago in a match at Galatasaray, United's Eric Cantona claimed he was attacked by police after being sent off on a red card.

Norwegian defender Ronnie Johnsen - who played a season in Turkey - has warned his teammates about the Turkish fans.

"The atmosphere in Fenerbahce's ground will be just like Galatasaray - but it's not half as bad as Trabzonspor. That's really fierce," Johnsen said. "They take the game seriously."

England defender Gary Pallister is the team's main concern, doubtful with a back injury. Fenerbahce, with only a draw in two games, will lead with four foreign players, including Bulgarian international Emil Kostadinov.

In Group A, injuries will force Ajax to field a second team - though that's all the Dutch side may need to handle winless Glasgow Rangers.

Ajax, runners-up last year to Juventus, will be without a long list of first-line players. Most recently injured are defender Frank de Boer, winger Tijlani Babangida, and striker Nordin Wooter. They go on top of a list of long-term absences that includes Jari Litmanen, Danny Blind, Pejer Hoekstra and Patrick Kluitert. The injuries have pushed Richard Witschge, Mario Melchiot and Dani up to the first team.

Rangers could be near the end of the road with losses to Grasshoppers and Auxerre.

Group A leaders Grasshoppers, with two surprising wins in two games over Rangers and Ajax (1-0), plays at Auxerre. The French side, like Ajax, has one win in two games.

Pack beats 49ers in OT

GREEN BAY (Reuters) - Chris Jacke's field goal with eight seconds left in regulation tied the game and his 53-yard strike in overtime gave the Green Bay Packers a 23-20 victory over the San Francisco 49ers on Monday.

Packers' quarterback Brett Favre drove Green Bay 69 yards in 94 seconds to set up Jacke's tying field goal. Green Bay sits atop the Central Division with a 6-1 record, best in the NFL.

Jeff Wilkins' 28-yard field goal, with 1:50 remaining in the fourth quarter had given the Niners a 20-17 advantage.

San Francisco cornerback Marquez Pope had picked off Favre pass and returned it to the Green Bay 13, setting up what appeared to be the winning score.

But Favre drove the team in the final seconds of regulation and picked up where he left off on the Packers' first possession of overtime.

After a defensive stop of San Francisco, the Packers took over on their 43 and Favre completed a

13-yard strike to Don Beebe, who had 220 yards as a receiver, putting the ball at the San Francisco 40. Another completion to Derrick Mayes put the ball at the Niners 35 and Jacke split the upright easily with enough leg.

Beebe finished with 11 catches, including a 59-yard touchdown reception, and Favre completed 28-of-61 passes for 395 yards.

The Packers lost starting wide receiver Robert Brooks to a knee injury early in the first quarter.

The Packers opened a 6-0 advantage after ooc quarter on a pair of field goals by Jacke. Jacke capped a six-play, 50-yard drive with a 30-yard field goal and added a 25-yarder 2:25 later.

The 49ers cut the deficit to 6-3 midway through the second quarter when Grbac completed a 24-yard pass to Jerry Rice, setting up a 48-yard field goal by Jeff Wilkins.

Grbac's seven yard scoring pass to Jerry Rice gave San Francisco its first lead of the game with 2:20 remaining in the half.

All in the Family tennis event set

HEATHER CHAIT

THE family that plays together, stays together.

A great believer of this is Shai Mayer, the organizer of the All in the Family tennis tournament.

The event, now in its 15th year, will be played at the Hapoel Tel Aviv courts from November 3-17.

The categories allow for a wide range of familial partnerships: father/son, father/daughter, mother/son, mother/daughter, husband/wife, siblings, grandfather/grandson, grandfather/granddaughter.

Each of the over 500 entries expected this year will receive a present from Bank Discount, the main sponsor, and four prizes of air tickets to London or Paris will be awarded in the four biggest categories.

In line with the social emphasis of the event, players who have been ranked in the ATP lists over the past five years are not eligible.

"This is a grassroots, educational tournament," says Mayer, "and is often the first chance a child has to play with his father in a tournament." Players who participated in the tournament over the years include Eyal Ran, Noam Behr and Ofer Sela.

The entry fee is NIS 60 for one category plus NIS 45 for extra events. Registration closes on October 23. For more information, call (03) 5178444 or (03) 5172112.

SCOREBOARD

MONDAY'S NHL RESULTS: Boston 5, Vancouver 4 (OT), NY Rangers 5, Calgary 4; Edmonton 6, Phoenix 3.

Joseph Hoffman, Sports Editor

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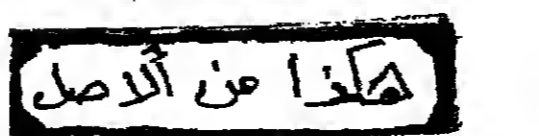
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Defend legal system, A-G urges leaders

EVELYN GORDON

THE political, religious and educational leadership of the country must step up its defense of the Supreme Court and the legal system, as this is the only way to effectively combat the recent attacks on the system, Attorney-General Michael Ben-Yair said yesterday.

Speaking at a conference of local authority lawyers in Tel Aviv, Ben-Yair pointed to surveys which indicate that while the general public has a great deal of faith in the Supreme Court, certain segments of the public have very little faith in it. This is not a phenomenon that can be dismissed as marginal, he said, since such doubts in one sector are likely to spread to others as well.

"Law enforcement, by its very nature, does not depend solely on the public servants whose job it is," he said. "It depends primarily on a broad social consensus regarding the validity and justice of the law. When most of the public obeys the law... it is easier for the authorities to locate those individuals who break the law and to bring them to justice. But if there are those who deny the validity of a certain law, or the integrity of those bodies responsible for enforcing the law, the consensus which is the basis of the rule of law will be lost, and every man will see himself as free to make his own law."

This phenomenon is especially dangerous when it degenerates

into personal attacks, such as those on Supreme Court President Aharon Barak. Ben-Yair added.

"We will soon be observing the anniversary of the terrible murder [of prime minister Yitzhak Rabin]," he said. "I would like to believe that this terrible act was one of a kind, and does not attest to a deep weakness and sickness in Israeli society. I would like to believe this - but, to my sorrow, the reality does not permit me to adopt this comforting belief with a whole heart... I must once again remind and warn you: We know where personal attacks on a public figure, whether elected or appointed, begin, but we don't know where they may end. The precedents are very worrying."

Despite this, however, criminal prosecution of those who speak or write against the court is generally not the answer, he said - both because of the importance of freedom of speech, and because it can actually make the problem worse.

Therefore, he concluded, the only solution is for an increased public educational effort to refute these views.

Item adds:

Meretz MK Anat Maor yesterday called on Ben-Yair to reconsider his decision not to open an investigation against Shas mentor Rabbi Ovadia Yosef, saying the rabbi's remarks could be interpreted as being against the Supreme Court and the entire legal system.



The remains of a six-seater plane which crashed yesterday lie just outside the Herzliya air field. The plane's pilot, Amiram Levine, 38, of Ramat Gan, was killed in the crash, which occurred for as yet unknown reasons while he was practicing takeoffs and landings. The Civil Aviation Authority has launched an investigation. (Israel Sun)

Decision on Katz petition in Nimrodi case deferred

EVELYN GORDON

THE High Court of Justice heard attorney Mordechai Katz's petition against his indictment for obstructing justice yesterday, but deferred its decision until a later date.

According to the draft indictment, Katz transferred hush money from *Ma'ariv* publisher Ofer Nimrodi to accused wiretappers Rafi Friedan and Ya'akov Tsur, in order to stop Friedan and Tsur from revealing that Nimrodi had commissioned them to do illegal wiretaps.

To get information about Katz's role, the state obtained court permission to wiretap his office phone. However, Katz charged that the taps were illegal, because they included many conversations protected by lawyer-client immunity, including his conversations with his own attorney and conversations between his partners and their clients - the latter even while Katz himself was in jail. The state has no right to indict him on the basis of an illegal act, he argued, nor should this illegally obtained information be given to Nimrodi as part of his trial.

The court issued a show-cause order on the petition in May.

Yesterday, government attorney Nava Ben-Or reiterated her contention that the wiretaps were legal. But even if they were not, she said, this is a claim that should be raised in the court which tries Katz's case, rather than in the High Court. Lower courts also have the power to either refuse to admit certain evidence or, if the matter is particularly egregious, even to throw out the case.

Justices Aharon Barak, Theodor Orr and Ya'akov Kedmi appeared

sympathetic to this argument.

"There is an accepted procedure in criminal cases," Barak told Katz. "Why do you need to come to us? You can't use the High Court as a preliminary proceeding in a criminal trial."

"If we accept your argument, every defendant who claims to have been illegally bugged will be able to raise that claim here," he added, stressing that this is not the court's proper role.

However, all sides to the case - Katz, Ben-Or and Nimrodi's attorney, Dan Avi-Yitzhak - agreed that the question of whether the transcripts of the taps should be given to Nimrodi could not be left to the trial court. If these transcripts were in fact illegal, all agreed that Nimrodi should not receive them. However, since two separate trials are involved here - Katz's and Nimrodi's - only a decision by a higher court would be binding on both judges, they said.

Regarding the substance of Katz's charges, Ben-Or agreed that wiretapping a lawyer was "unusual," but said this move was justified by the importance of the principle involved: that one should be able to buy the results of a criminal investigation. To maintain this principle, it was necessary to get proof that Nimrodi was buying off Friedan and Tsur, she said.

Katz, supported by the Bar Association, argued that the wiretapping law permits lawyers to be bugged only if they are suspected of a felony, whereas obstructing justice is a misdemeanor. However, Ben-Or disputed this interpretation of the law.

Court sentences, fines ex-Likud treasurer for false invoice issue

RAINE MARCUS

THE Tel Aviv District Court yesterday sentenced Mordechai Yabel, the Likud party treasurer during the 1988 municipal elections, to six months' imprisonment and fined him NIS 75,000 for issuing false invoices to companies who donated funds to the Likud during the municipal elections.

Menahem Etzmon was given a 12-month suspended prison sentence and fined NIS 100,000 for his part in the affair, while Yona Peled was given an eight-month suspended sentence and fined NIS 50,000.

Attorney-General Michael Ben-Yair recently ruled that Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert also will be indicted on similar charges in the case.

Yabel, who the court described as the central figure and executor of the false invoice affair, asked the court to commute his sentence to community service. A decision will be made at a later stage.

To avoid paying the necessary taxes on donations to the party, the three defendants issued invoices to advertising agencies for "consultation and publicity services."

In sentencing the three, Judge Ephraim Shalev said he was taking into consideration the time which had lapsed since the offenses and the fact that the defendants did not break the law for personal gain but to benefit a political cause.

After the sentencing, Peled said that just the fact that he and his colleagues were convicted was in itself a trauma. He added that the trial constituted "the guard at the gate" syndrome, and said that everyone must be "very careful, especially if they are connected to ministers and those in senior positions," hinting that those in higher governmental positions are really the guilty parties.

Housing shortage hits one in five

LIAT COLLINS

ONE in five people in Israel suffer from the housing shortage. This stark statistic emerged at the discussions which launched the Knesset Caucus for Affordable Housing yesterday. Hadash MK Tamar Gozansky created the caucus.

The opening meeting was attended by MKs from nearly all of the political factions, as well as community activists and representatives from public bodies dealing with housing issues.

"The average worker needs to work 12 years and use his entire income in order to be able to buy a two-room house in a peripheral area," Gozansky said. "A worker who earns only the minimum wage needs to work 24 years to buy the same house, on the assumption that all his earnings are saved for this."

She said the situation was

almost the opposite of that in other developed countries.

"In countries where the average income is high, families can afford the price of housing, which amounts at the most to 25 percent of their earnings, which makes housing attainable without making the family needy," she said.

She said public and municipal companies have some 10,000 apartments at their disposal, but that the demand is six times that number.

The caucus is calling for the construction of more public housing for rent and sale; more realistic mortgages; and grants and direct aid for rent.

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Forecast: Partly cloudy to clear. Slight rise in temperatures.

AROUND THE WORLD

| City | Low | High | Cloud |
|--------------|-----|------|-------|
| Amsterdam | 12 | 54 | 18 84 |
| Berlin | 09 | 48 | 17 83 |
| Buenos Aires | 13 | 50 | 27 81 |
| Cairo | 18 | 62 | 27 81 |
| Chicago | 10 | 50 | 14 57 |
| Copenhagen | 10 | 50 | 14 57 |
| Frankfurt | 10 | 50 | 14 57 |
| Geneva | 07 | 45 | 16 61 |
| Hong Kong | 24 | 78 | 28 88 |
| Heidelberg | 00 | 32 | 08 46 |
| London | 12 | 54 | 18 81 |
| Los Angeles | 16 | 61 | 28 79 |
| Moscow | 02 | 37 | 18 61 |
| Montreal | 03 | 27 | 18 61 |
| Munich | 09 | 45 | 16 61 |
| New York | 07 | 45 | 16 61 |
| Paris | 10 | 50 | 14 57 |
| Rome | 13 | 54 | 18 81 |

NEWS IN BRIEF

Knesset remembers Moshe Dayan
The Knesset yesterday marked the 15th anniversary of Moshe Dayan's death. The visitors' gallery was filled with guests and dignitaries, including President Ezer Weizman, who is related to the Dayan family, his wife Re'uma, and other relatives and friends of the Dayans.

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu praised Dayan as a symbol of the generation which struggled for the State and to achieve peace with security.

Opposition leader Shimon Peres said Dayan had reached his greatest achievements both in war and in bringing about peace.

Labor MK Yael Dayan, Moshe's daughter, gave an emotional speech in which she recalled her childhood as the daughter of a "fighter," "poet" and "statesman [who] was the symbol of dialogue." *Liat Collins*

Dimona Textile workers occupy factory
Some 280 people, including former Dimona Textiles employees and their families and city council members yesterday broke into the factory, which closed three months ago, and said they would not leave the premises until they are given jobs. They made arrangements for food and electricity, since they plan to sleep there at night as well.

Workers' committee head Shimon Peretz said the workers will also demonstrate in Jerusalem. He pointed out that when the factory closed, it left people who had worked there for over 30 years with no means of income. *Item*

Ancient Jewish tombstone found in Katzin
During a recent Antiquities Authority survey of the Golan Heights, an ancient tombstone with a Hebrew inscription was found in the Katzin area. The stone, which was found in its entirety, is another sign of Jewish presence in the Katzin area in the Talmudic and Mishnaic eras, the authority said in a statement.

The tomb apparently belongs to Katzin's ancient Jewish cemetery. The authority transferred the tombstone to the Golan Antiquities Museum in Katzin, where it will soon be on public display. *Jerusalem Post Staff*

Hadassah D-G named associate to US medical institute
Hadassah Medical Organization director-general Prof. Shmuel Penchas has been elected a foreign associate member of the US National Academy of Science's Institute of Medicine.

Announcement of the rare honor was relayed yesterday to Penchas by insulate president Dr. Kenneth Shine.

Penchas, 57, is only the third Israeli to have been elected to the institute and the first to have been chosen for his accomplishments in the field of Israeli health administration and the advancement of public health. *Judy Siegel*

Russian artwork to be displayed
Sixteen Jerusalem artists of the Keshet Group, who this summer attended a workshop in Moscow, will exhibit their works made in Russia at the Kerem Institute in Jerusalem from tomorrow. The show will be open until November 14. *Meir Ronnen*

Jerusalem to get additional NIS 10m. for Highway 4
Transportation Ministry Director-General Nahum Langental yesterday decided to transfer NIS 10 million from other local authorities' unutilized budgets to Jerusalem for its transportation projects.

The NIS 10m. is in addition to the NIS 24m. which the ministry transferred to Jerusalem last week. The funds are to be used for the paving and development of Highway 4, which links northern and southern Jerusalem. The Ministry is financing 70 percent of the cost and the Jerusalem Municipality 30 percent. Langental expressed satisfaction with the pace of work on the NIS 350m. highway, which is to be opened officially in April. *Haim Shapiro*

Dog-handlers school opening in Hod Hasharon
The Israel Kennel Club is opening a school for dog-handlers next week on the premises of the School for the Arts in Hod Hasharon. The courses will be open anyone over age 16.

The first program will last about five months and covers canine anatomy and physiology; basic veterinary science; breeding; treatment; first aid; animal behavior; nutrition; and genetics. In the future, the Kennel Club's school is planning to offer additional courses such as video and still photography of dogs and advanced animal behavior. *Liat Collins*

Winning cards

IN yesterday's daily Chance drawing, the winning cards were the queen of spades, the jack of hearts, the king of diamonds and the queen of clubs.

In last night's Lotto drawing, the winning numbers were 7, 10, 23, 26, 27, and 31 and the additional number was 48.

Lawyer remanded for taking police computer data

A LAWYER suspected of illegally extracting information from the Israel Police computer while she worked as a Hadera police prosecutor was remanded yesterday by the Haifa Magistrate's Court.

Police told the court that while Pazit Perlmutter-Wolf, 27, of Ramat Hasharon, worked with police she obtained computer information and transferred it to companies which specialize in business information. The police representatives said that after she left the police, she continued to obtain information on criminal records for clients she represented.

Evidence police said they collected from the lawyer's home and another location was presented to the judge. As a result of that search, police said, another suspect in the case has been detained.

Perlmutter-Wolf's lawyer said the documents police had collected, on criminal records, related to cases she dealt with while working for the police.

A representative of the Haifa Bar Association said the woman's detention would harm her professionally.

The judge ruled that evidence in the hands of police appeared to justify the police request for a remand in order to complete the investigation.

The court also decided yesterday to cancel the publication ban on the name of the woman, leading to the withdrawal of a petition against the censorship filed by the Haifa Journalists Association and *Item*.

Flypast to honor Ron Arad today

FELLOW pilots and navigators who flew with missing airman Ron Arad are to mark the 10th anniversary of his capture today with a flypast containing a missing slot to symbolize Arad's disappearance.

The airman will be flying C-130 transport planes and will perform their flypast as part of their training, military sources said. *Arich O'Sullivan*

An evening in memory of Arthur Weissmann with his sister, Gerda Weissmann Klein, and screening of her Oscar & Emmy Award Winning Film "One Survivor Remembers"

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